

Minister for Health

Health Services in Wyong Continue to Expand as Minister Opens Community Health Centre

3 October 2002

The Minister for Health, Craig Knowles will officially open the \$3.4 million Wyong Central Community Health Centre today, saying ongoing investment in health care on the central coast is vital to meet the community's growing needs.

The Centre will accommodate a wide range of health services including Youth Health, Mental Health, Early Childhood Nurses, Speech Pathology and Alcohol and Other Drug Services.

In addition, the Health Centre will also serve as the Area headquarters for Community Nursing.

"The opening of the Wyong Central Community Health Centre is another example of the importance of expanding health services to meet the needs of an expanding population.

"It has been my pleasure to be invited to the opening of a number of new facilities here in the Wyong Shire during the past two years, including the Cancer Care Centre at Wyong Hospital, the Lake Haven Community Health Centre and Lake Haven Dialysis Unit.

"All of these facilities play an important role in the health and well being of a community and they are an integral component of the Area's Community Health Strategy of bringing services closer to the people they serve."

"Wyong Central will not only provide a range of important health services to the local community, it is also very conveniently located near major bus and rail services," said Mr Knowles.

The Community Health Centre will employ more than 60 staff and is expected to boost economic activity within the Wyong CBD.

The Wyong Central Community Health Centre is part of a massive improvement to health facilities and services on the Central Coast, including the \$206 million dollar redevelopment of Gosford and Wyong Hospitals.

"The commitment of this Government to the Central Coast is also reflected in record spending this financial year with more than \$228.3 million provided to the Central Coast this year.

"Additional investment is also being realised through the Greater Metropolitan Transition Taskforce, with additional funds of over \$3 million, most of it recurrent,

recently allocated to the Wyong Hospital through the Metropolitan Hospitals program."