

MEDIA RELEASE

13 April 2016

Construction tender awarded for Toowoomba Hospital CT service expansion

Darling Downs Hospital and Health Board Chair Mr Mike Horan today said construction on a project to provide an expanded CT service at Toowoomba Hospital would start in the coming weeks.

“I’m very pleased to say the tender for construction of this \$2.75 million project has been awarded to Northbuild Constructions,” Mr Horan said.

“Late last year Elia Architecture was appointed as the project architect so it is excellent to see two firms with local Toowoomba offices playing integral roles in this expansion.

“The project will involve the replacement of the existing CT scanner and the installation of a second state-of-the-art machine.

“Toowoomba Hospital already has a comprehensive medical imaging service which includes CT, x-ray, ultrasound and angiography.

“This expansion of the CT service is great news for patients from Toowoomba and those from surrounding areas who travel to Toowoomba to access CT services.

“Construction is scheduled to start within weeks and we anticipate that the service will be fully operational with both new scanners in use by the end of August this year.”

Mr Horan said the CT expansion project was an excellent example of the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Board’s commitment to delivering improved health care services.

“In 2014-15 the Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service recorded an operating surplus of \$20.1 million and the Board was very pleased to be able to reinvest some of those funds into this project,” he said.

“The \$2.75 million is made up of \$1.8 million that had already been allocated for the project, plus an additional \$950,000 from the Board.”

Toowoomba Hospital director of medical imaging Mr Aiden Cook said the project highlighted the importance of CT scanner services to the local community.

“It is quite a milestone for a hospital to go from one CT scanner to two, so we’re very excited about the expansion,” Mr Cook said.

“It’s a reflection of the amount of work we’re putting through and shows just how important CT services are in terms of contributing to the best patient care possible.

“From a technical perspective the CT scanners being installed are a Toshiba Aquilion ONE Vision, and a Toshiba Aquilion Prime, both of which are extremely high quality machines.

“The Aquilion ONE Vision has the ability to provide whole brain imaging and whole heart imaging in a single rotation of the machine, which means faster, higher quality imaging.

“We are very eagerly looking forward to providing this new and expanded service to our patients.”

Ends

MEDIA: Contact *Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Media Team* 4699 8725, 0448 996 296 or DDHHS_media@health.qld.gov.au