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Press statement: New Hospital Projects

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PRESS STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH, HON. A.J. SHARD, M.L.C.

NEW HOSPITAL PROJECTS.

29/4/71.

Three big new hospital projects in South Australia involving State Government backing of nearly \$2M. were today announced by the Health Minister, Mr. Shard.

The three projects are:

- . a new North Eastern Community Hospital
- . a new Western District Community Hospital
- . a major expansion programme at the South Coast District Hospital.

Mr. Shard said State Cabinet had given the financial go-ahead for the proposed 40-bed hospital and 44-bed nursing home at Campbelltown which comprised stage one of the North Eastern Community Hospital.

The hospital, which will serve the St. Peters, Payneham, Campbelltown and Highbury areas, is to be built at a site on the corner of Lower North East Road and Heading Ave., Campbelltown. A master plan for the hospital provides for its eventual expansion to 150 beds.

Mr. Shard said the State Government would provide a subsidy of more than \$1M. of the estimated cost of \$1.6M. for Stage one. Preliminary plans had been drawn up by North Eastern Community Hospital Inc. and it was expected that tenders for the buildings would be called later this year.

The Minister said Cabinet had also given the financial green light to the proposed Western District Community Hospital at Henley Beach.

Since 1965 there have been moves to have the existing 28 bed Henley and Grange Hospital replaced.

Cabinet had now agreed to support construction of a 56 to 60 bed hospital at Cudmore Terrace and Margaret Street and it was expected that tenders would be called later this year.

There was provision in the plans for eventual expansion to 200 beds. State Government support for the present scheme would total nearly \$600,000.

The new hospital will serve a wider area than the present Henley and Grange Hospital, Mr. Shard said.

The third project is for extensions and additions to the South Coast District Hospital Inc. at Victor Harbor which will greatly increase bed capacity and general facilities.

Cabinet has approved acceptance of a tender from R.P. Brimblecombe and Sons Pty. Ltd. for the work and will subsidise on a \$2 for \$1 basis, involving Government spending of more than \$350,000.

The additions include extensions to the hospital block itself including a new 17-bed surgical wing, outpatients and casualty facilities, and accommodation for a further sixteen resident nurses.

"I am gratified that the State Government has been able to provide financial backing for these much-needed projects, particularly at this present time of financial stringency.

"Expanding population and the fact that some facilities are outmoded have meant that hospital resources are severely taxed and these three schemes should go a considerable way to alleviate this", the Minister said.
