The Hon. Greg Hunt MP  
Minister for Health

Senator the Hon. Richard Colbeck  
Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources  
Liberal Senator for Tasmania

Gavin Pearce  
Liberal for Braddon

MEDIA RELEASE

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Delivering new linear accelerator to boost cancer treatments in the North West

The Liberal National Government is expanding the cancer treatment capacity at the North West Regional Hospital cancer centre with a $4.4 million investment in a new linear accelerator (LINAC).

Minister for Health Greg Hunt said the Liberal National Government continues to deliver on its record of additional health services for patients and families in North West Tasmania.

“Our Government is steadfast in its commitment to ensuring all Australians have access to the critical health services that we all rely on,” Minister Hunt said.

“This means more services for more patients in the North West – an area sadly disproportionately affected by cancer.”

“The North West Regional Hospital cancer centre was built with a $25 million investment from our Government and we are dedicated to ensuring its capacity grows to meet demand.”

“This latest announcement will help save lives and improve patient care.”

“By delivering our plan for a strong economy we can make investments in projects like the North West Regional Hospital cancer centre that Tasmanians want and need.”

Senator for Tasmania Richard Colbeck said the additional LINAC machine would be a significant benefit to local families managing a cancer diagnosis.

“LINAC machines are vital pieces of technology in the treatment of cancer because they are utilised for many indications and allow doctors to target cancer cells while protecting the surrounding healthy tissue.”

“The cancer centre design was future-proofed with an additional bunker built to accommodate a second LINAC because we were conscious of the growing need for this kind of health service.”

Liberal for Braddon Gavin Pearce said the ability to access a cancer treatment closer to home would make a big difference to North West families.

“I lost my wife to cancer suddenly and at a young age so I am passionate about ensuring our community has access to the best cancer treatment available – after all, every Tasmanian has a cancer story.”

“Travel takes a heavy toll on cancer patients and families, so it is critical for their wellbeing that we minimise the need for people to travel to the major cities,” Mr Pearce said.

The Liberal National Government’s strong economic management ensures the continued investment of record funding into vital health initiatives including drug and alcohol treatment, mental health, life-saving medicines, Medicare and hospitals.

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