

JOONDALUP HEALTH CAMPUS

166. Mr A.P. O'GORMAN to the Minister for Health:

Before I ask my question, I congratulate you, Mr Speaker, and the President on making this a much safer workplace for all of us.

Will the minister outline how an extra 70 beds in Joondalup are going to be opened up for the public health system?

Mr J.A. McGINTY replied:

I appreciate the ongoing interest that the member for Joondalup has shown in health issues affecting his constituents, and for that reason I am delighted to be able to inform the house and the member that the state government and Ramsay Health Care have in the past 24 hours at last reached agreement in principle for major redevelopment of the Joondalup Health Campus. This agreement will enable by 2010 a new co-located private hospital of 165 beds; 237 additional public beds, including mental health, to increase the total public beds to 515; an expanded emergency department; four new operating theatres plus two endoscopy procedure rooms and a cardiac catheter laboratory; and expanded diagnostic and other services. This includes 70 of the current private patient beds at Joondalup being made available to public patients. The new private and public hospitals are expected to open in phases and be completed by mid-2010. The government contribution alone is expected to exceed \$130 million over the next three years. Details of the contract will now be finalised over the coming months.

Ms S.E. Walker: What about the hospice? You closed it!

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Nedlands!

Mr J.A. McGINTY: Meanwhile, detailed drawings for 15 new public mental health beds and expanded treatment areas will be completed and tenders called in June 2007. Schematic design has already been completed for the development of the main hospital buildings and is planned to deliver four new operating theatres by February 2009 at a cost of \$19.289 million; 10 new palliative care beds by April 2009, at a cost of \$3.445 million; the emergency department stage 1 by November 2009, and the emergency department stage 2 by May 2010 - this will increase the capacity of the Joondalup hospital emergency department from 25 bays to 56 bays - totalling \$16.507 million; an increase in critical care beds from 10 to 25 beds by November 2009 at a cost of \$12.319 million; and, most importantly so far as employees of the health campus are concerned, to implement the government's policy for childminding facilities to now be built at every major hospital, a 90-place childcare facility at a cost of \$2.183 million.

I can tell the member for Joondalup that these negotiations have been lengthy, detailed and complex, and at times difficult, but the agreement that has now been reached I am sure will be of enormous benefit to everyone living in Perth's northern suburbs.