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**Title:**

Statement from the Premier - Election policy statement - Hospital programme

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# STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date..... June 29, 1975...

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre,  
Victoria Square, Adelaide,  
South Australia 5001  
228 4811

## ELECTION POLICY STATEMENT - HOSPITAL PROGRAMME

The State Government's Hospitals and Health Care Construction Programme would be dramatically expanded, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, said today.

He said that this would be the result of Medibank arrangements and a State Government election commitment to allocate \$83M. of loan funds to hospital construction.'

Mr. Dunstan said that the programme would "put South Australia ahead of every other State in health and hospital care".

He said that in his policy speech he had committed his Government to -

- \* Hostels for intellectually retarded patients;
- \* A major centre for the treatment of alcoholics and drug addiction;
- \* New general hospital buildings at Whyalla and at Elizabeth, to replace the existing Whyalla Hospital and the Lyall McEwin Hospital;
- \* A re-developed and extended Queen Victoria Hospital;
- \* Substantial additions to the beds available at Modbury Hospital;
- \* Nursing homes for the aged;
- \* Improvements and additions to the Port Lincoln Hospital;
- \* Extended community health and rehabilitation programmes.

### FLINDERS MEDICAL CENTRE :

He said that of the \$83M. loan commitment, \$23M. would be spent on the Flinders Medical Centre.

This would be for -

- \* The completion of the Phase II building, the Main Ward Block, the Diagnostic Laboratories, an X-Ray Department, an Outpatients Department and the Operating Theatre Suite;

- \* The construction of Phase III Buildings, including an additional 197 beds.
- \* The commencement of Phase IV to provide a total of 710 beds with accommodation for a coronary care unit and the departments of rehabilitation and psychiatry.

GLENSIDE AND HILLCREST HOSPITALS :

The Premier said \$6M. will be spent on Glenside and Hillcrest Hospitals.

The new Glenside works would include -

- \* Erection of three single storey 64 bed sub-acute wards;
- \* Single storey 128 bed psycho-geriatric ward;
- \* Two single storey 42 bed maximum care wards;
- \* Renovation of the Paterson House Receiving Centre and the upgrading of administration offices.

He said that current construction of a 64 bed single storey building will be completed in 1976.

Mr. Dunstan said that in Hillcrest the programme would give -

- \* New admissions ward with accommodation for 42 patients;
- \* A 40 bed diagnostic and assessment unit for psycho-geriatric patients and day hospital accommodation;
- \* A 128 bed psycho-geriatric ward for long term chronically handicapped patients.

R.A.H. - NORTHFIELD WARDS :

The Premier said that the programme provided for the Northfield Wards of the Royal Adelaide Hospital to be redeveloped at a cost of \$7M.

He said that Stage I construction would provide eight new wards for accommodating 200 geriatric patients and a new energy complex to be completed in 1976.

Stage II would include the subsequent stages of the total redevelopment.

MODBURY HOSPITAL :

The Premier said \$3M. will provide substantial additions to the beds available at the Modbury Hospital. Future work would include -

- \* A three storey building for nurse training;
- \* New building for psychiatric in-patients and day patients;
- \* Three level extension to the North Wing;
- \* Extension to the South Wing of five floors to provide 250 beds, laboratories and X-Ray Department.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL :

He said that over the next three years \$3M. will be spent on the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The works would include -

- \* Conversion of existing ward area to provide a new major thoracic operating theatre;
- \* A new building to house a decompression chamber;
- \* A multi-storey building to accommodate specialised services, including cardiac neuro-surgery and gastro-enterology services;
- \* A new building for on-site accommodation for medical staff.

The Premier also announced that a centralised frozen food factory, costing \$6M., would be built at Dudley Park with an initial capacity of 25,000 meals a day on a one shift basis.

This would provide meals for the Modbury Hospital, the Strathmont Training Centre, the Glenside Hospital, the Flinders Medical Centre and other institutions.

MOUNT GAMBIER HOSPITAL :

The Premier said that in the South East the programme included a \$1M. expenditure to -

- \* Extend the X-Ray Department and install additional X-Ray equipment;
- \* Develop the hospital laundry to provide a regional laundry and linen service;
- \* Complete the new Nurse Training School and add five storeys to the Nurses' Home to accommodate another 60 nurses.

PORT AUGUSTA HOSPITAL :

In Port Augusta, the Hospital programme would provide for a \$2M. 26 bed addition for geriatric patient accommodation, physiotherapy and occupational therapy facilities, and an IMVS laboratory and ancillary offices.

PORT PIRIE HOSPITAL :

The Premier said \$3M. will be spent over the next three years on Port Pirie Hospital as part of Phase II of its redevelopment.

A new medical geriatric ward block to accommodate 60 patients would consist of 8 six-bed wards, 2 two-bed wards and 8 single bed wards.

The new block will be air-conditioned and would include a dining room, day room, physiotherapy and occupational therapy wing and ancillary rooms.

ADELAIDE CHILDRENS HOSPITAL :

Mr. Dunstan said that the involvement and concern of the State Government for health care of the children of South Australia is reflected in the \$12M. to be spent over the next three years on the Adelaide Childrens Hospital development scheme.

The total scheme of three phases is to be developed over the next five years.

AGED CARE :

Care of the aged is also high on the list of priorities with the spending of \$11M. for the new 10 storey building of the second stage of the Home for Incurables extensions.

The 416 bed East Block will provide long stay accommodation for incapacitated patients suffering from a chronic disease or illness and in need of constant nursing care.

DENTAL THERAPY :

Following the construction of the new Dental Training School at Somerton Park, a further \$5M. will be spent on a Principal School for Dental Therapists and Administration Headquarters at North Terrace, Adelaide.

This will allow the present intake of Dental Therapy students to be increased from 48 to 64.

Expansion of the School Dental Services aims to achieve the provision of free dental care to all primary schoolchildren in South Australia by 1980, extending later to include all children up to age 15 by 1985.

There are now 40 static dental clinics in country and metropolitan primary schools.

In remote areas there are 12 mobile clinics.

A further 14 static clinics and 13 mobile clinics will be completed in 1976.

A mobile clinic parking area for 50 mobile clinics, repair depot and dental store will be established at Regency Park by 1977.

The Premier also announced the Government's Community Health Election Proposals.

He said that thirty new projects concerning community health, community mental health and alcohol and drug dependency would be implemented in 1975-76.

Approximately one-third would involve centres for primary health care, while others would cover activities such as aid for the handicapped, community psychiatric services, health education and the provision of occupational health services.

Mr. Dunstan said that the Government would make fully operational community health facilities and services in the metropolitan areas of St. Agnes, Ingle Farm, Clovelly Park and Christies Beach, and in the country areas at Ceduna, Keith and Coonalpyn.

He said others would be completed in Port Lincoln, Cummins, Tumby Bay, Coober Pedy, Murray Bridge, Kingoonya and the metropolitan project at Angle Park.

He said the Government's social work services to general practitioners in areas of need would continue together with specialist courses of training for para-medical aides and community health nurses.

The Premier said that the Government was committed to extending domiciliary care services throughout the State.

He said that the present fourteen units, covering major population areas in metropolitan and country districts, would be increased to 21 in both metropolitan and country areas.