

Wednesday April 15

HEPBURN HEALTH REDEVELOPMENT CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

Trentham residents will soon have even better access to modern health and aged care services thanks to the Brumby Government's \$8 million redevelopment of the Trentham campus of Hepburn Health Service.

Touring the construction site today, Senior Victorians Minister Lisa Neville and MP for Ballarat East, Geoff Howard, said the redevelopment would improve services for both patients and staff at the Trentham Campus.

"The Brumby Government is taking action to build state-of-the-art integrated health facilities and improve access to vital services in rural Victoria," Ms Neville said.

"In the 2008/09 State Budget, the Government committed \$8 million to the Trentham redevelopment."

Mr Howard said the work would include 20 low-care and 15 high-care beds, general practice consulting and treatment rooms, redeveloped service areas and community health facilities.

"It will be an integrated facility providing easy access to primary health and general practice services for local residents," he said.

"There has already been a great deal of preparation and development of plans for the facility, and construction has recently begun."

Ms Neville said the Brumby Government was committed to ensuring that aging Victorians remain living locally, close to family and friends while receiving the best possible care.

"The staged nature of the work may cause some minor inconvenience, particularly to staff, and I thank you in advance for your patience and commitment to the development of a modern, quality facility for your local community," she said.

Ms Neville said Ballarat builder W M Flynn Pty Ltd secured the contract for the Trentham development.

"In these tougher global times, the Brumby Government is taking action to create jobs and lock in Victoria's future," Ms Neville said.

"Around 50 workers will be employed on the project at the peak of its construction" she said.

Since 1999 the Brumby Government has undertaken significant work to rebuild country Victoria's health system, investing more than \$650 million on capital works projects, medical equipment and infrastructure upgrades across rural and regional Victoria.

Ms Neville said the Brumby Government has invested \$445 million to upgrade 47 residential aged care facilities across Victoria, of these 44 have been in rural and regional Victoria.

"The Brumby Government is taking action to ensure Victorians have a world class health system, because we want Victorian families to have the treatment and care they deserve."

Media contact: Sofia Dedes 9651 5799 / 0400 512 618 www.premier.vic.gov.au

