



The Place To Be

Media release

From the Minister for Health

Tuesday, 4 September, 2007

NEXT STEP FOR NEW \$850m ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Planning for Victoria's new world-class \$850 million Royal Children's Hospital has taken the next key step with the decision to enter into exclusive negotiations with the Children's Health Partnership consortium.

The Children's Health Partnership consortium comprises Babcock & Brown as sponsors, Bovis Lend Lease as builder, Spotless Group as facilities manager and architects Billard Leece, Bates Smart and HKS (US). The project is being delivered under the State Government's *Partnerships Victoria* policy.

Health Minister Daniel Andrews said the negotiations are expected to enable the consortium to address any outstanding design and commercial issues associated with its proposal, prior to signing contracts later this year.

Mr Andrews said the process allowed the Government to revert to the other short-listed bidder – the Plenary Health consortium – in the event negotiations did not reach a satisfactory resolution. It also means construction is still on track to begin later in the year.

“Set to open in 2011, the new \$850 million Royal Children's Hospital is the biggest hospital development in Australia and a key part of this Government's \$4.1 billion capital works program – the largest health building program in Victoria's history,” Mr Andrews said.

“It will be built at Flemington Road, Parkville, immediately to the west of the current hospital. It will have parklands on three sides, creating a unique and natural setting.”

The Government is legislating to permanently reserve the existing hospital land to ensure there is no net loss in parkland.

“Once the new hospital is built, much of the existing site will be demolished and restored as parkland, providing a new gateway to Royal Park,” Mr Andrews said.