

Wednesday 18 July 2018

NEW HOME FOR BREASTSCREEN NSW IN WAGGA WAGGA

A lifesaving service for the early detection of breast cancer in women will be relocated to the heart of Wagga Wagga allowing better access for those at risk.

BreastScreen NSW will move from the Calvary Health Care Riverina campus into a shopfront in Berry Street in the city's central business district in early 2019.

BreastScreen NSW Director Debbie Lattimore said it is hoped the highly visible presence of BreastScreen NSW downtown will motivate more women aged 50 - 74 to be tested.

"Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer in women in NSW and sadly, one in eight will develop the disease by the age of 85 years," Ms Lattimore said.

"Breast screening saves lives, so it is vitally important that the new home for BreastScreen NSW is highly visible and easily accessible by foot or car for women."

More than \$4.5 million will be invested towards screening programs for breast cancer by Murrumbidgee Local Health District in the Greater Southern NSW region this financial year.

The new BreastScreen NSW site at 69-71 Berry Street will include:

- Dedicated reception and waiting areas
- Mammography and ultrasound rooms
- Consultation, procedure and interview rooms
- Call centre servicing Murrumbidgee Local Health District and Southern NSW Local Health Districts
- Dedicated rear access disabled parking
- Storage facilities.

Debbie Lattimore said: "Finding breast cancer early improves survival rates so women at risk should be having a mammogram every two years. Most mammogram appointments take less than 20 minutes and the x-ray pictures can find cancer well before you or your doctor could detect any changes in your breast."

A development application for the refurbishment of BreastScreen NSW's new Berry Street address has been lodged with Wagga Wagga City Council.

The relocation to a more central and more visible premises for the key service is part of the \$170 million Stage 3 Wagga Wagga Base Hospital redevelopment.

BreastScreen NSW's appointments and enquiries can be made by calling 13 20 50. Visit our website for more information: <https://www.breastscreen.nsw.gov.au/>

ends

Media note: An interview opportunity with BreastScreen NSW Radiographer Bronwyn Morley is available Thursday 19 July at 11.30am outside the new premises, 69-71 Berry Street, Wagga Wagga. Image: An architect's impression of the new shopfront. *Please credit: peckvonhartel.*