

# Expand healthcare in Melbourne's north: new outer north hospital



A new outer north hospital is essential infrastructure to meet rapid population growth, improve health equity and reduce pressure on overstretched metropolitan services. Immediate action, starting with land acquisition at Cloverton, is critical to avoid a long-term healthcare deficit.

## Our ask (deliverables)

We are calling on the Victorian Government to commit to planning for:

- a **new major public hospital** in the Cloverton precinct
- a **large-scale hospital delivering local emergency care and capacity for specialist services** such as trauma, obstetrics, dialysis, oncology, maternal, neonatal and paediatric services
- **integrated transport access** through the Upfield line extension to Wallan, with special focus on provision for a new Cloverton Station adjacent to the hospital.

## Investment required

- Land acquisition in the Cloverton precinct (approx. \$25 million) to secure the hospital site.
- Land acquisition (approx. \$20 million) to secure adjacent land for Cloverton Station.

## Why we need to plan now for a new hospital

The Northern Hospital (Epping) and Austin/Mercy (Heidelberg) are at capacity, with Northern Hospital having Victoria's busiest Emergency Department. Currently, no dedicated trauma support exists across the northern region.

Our region will add 500,000 people over the coming decades, becoming home to over 1.5 million residents. Our current health infrastructure, even with major upgrades, cannot meet current or future demand.

Growth areas across Hume, Whittlesea and Mitchell are home to many families with limited transport access, increasing reliance on safe, reliable public transport to reach health services.

Without a hospital and integrated rail access at Cloverton, our region faces:

- longer emergency waits
- overstretched specialist services
- reduced preventative health access
- worsening inequity for fast-growing, young and migrant communities.

## Benefits of supporting this important project

- Improved health outcomes through local emergency, specialist and mental health services.
- Reduced pressure on existing hospitals and Emergency Departments.
- Expansion of digital health, including the high-performing Victorian Virtual Emergency Department.
- Catalyst for economic growth, attracting investment in allied health, medical research, education, training and local jobs.
- Strong integration with the Upfield to Wallan Line extension, ensuring:
  - equitable access to the new hospital
  - activation of the Cloverton precinct
  - health services are reachable for communities with limited transport options.

## For comparison

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### Melbourne's north

- Population: ~1 million people.
- Population forecast: 1.5 million people by 2046.
- Major acute Emergency Departments serving the region: 1–2 (depending on catchment overlap).
- Growth areas (Donnybrook, Beveridge, Wollert, Kalkallo) often 60 minutes from tertiary care by public transport.
- The Northern Hospital is:
  - not on a direct rail line
  - dependent on road based access
  - poorly connected east–west by public transport.
- Growth area residents often face:
  - long bus–train–bus journeys
  - high car dependency for emergency and specialist care.

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### Greater Adelaide

- Population: ~1.47 million.
- Population forecast: ~1.9 million by 2046.
- Major metropolitan hospitals with Emergency Departments: 5.
- Most residents are within reasonable travel time of a full service public hospital by car or public transport.
- Public hospitals are:
  - connected to frequent bus corridors
  - located on or near rail or tram lines
  - integrated into the metropolitan transport system.