

Policy | 2014

Dunedin Hospital rebuild

HIGHLIGHTS

Labour will:

- Rebuild Dunedin Hospital with work beginning in our first term.
- Rule out privatising Dunedin Hospital through a Public-Private Partnership.

The Issue

A major rebuild of Dunedin Hospital is long overdue. It has deteriorated to in an unacceptable state. It is leaking and operations have had to be cancelled because the theatres aren't safe.

A comprehensive rebuild is needed to upgrade Dunedin Hospital for the 21st century.

The current government has only committed to looking at a business plan next year.

The current government has hinted that it may choose to make a rebuilt Dunedin Hospital into a Public Private Partnership, This privatisation model has been an abject failure when applied to hospitals overseas with cost blow-outs and poor service delivery for patients.

Dunedinites deserve more certainty and more urgency in this crucial matter.

Labour's Plan

Labour will rebuild Dunedin Hospital because it is the right thing to do.

Labour will commit to making Dunedin Hospital a priority for funding within the Health capital budget.

The \$250m+ rebuild will be paid for out the existing capital spending budget for health and the billion dollar per year allowance that Labour has established to tackle cost pressures and improve services in health and education.

We will begin work on the rebuild in our first term and complete it as soon as possible. This will mean Dunedinites will soon have a state of the art hospital to give them the best care possible.

Labour will not use a Public Private Partnership to privatise Dunedin Hospital by stealth. All the evidence is that PPPs are wrong for hospitals and the profit motive adds costs while detracting from patient care.

We are aware of the capital charge issue facing the Southern DHB due to the cost of the rebuild, and will work with the DHB to find a fair solution. The DHB's wider funding issues will be addressed through our billion dollar a year commitment to health and education.