

### **Q.1: Will you commit to greater investment in our public hospital system, and in its workforce?**

**Labor:** Will commit more than \$4 billion dollars to upgrade every metropolitan public hospital and every major country hospital in South Australia. This includes a recent investment of nearly \$1.2 billion in our public health system, to ensure it continues to be modern and cutting-edge.

**Liberal:** The Liberal Party will operate from a starting point of the existing Health forward estimates outlined in Budget Papers. They will aim to improve efficiencies, particularly through improving quality and reducing bureaucracy. All identified efficiencies from the health budget will be reinvested in the health portfolio.

**SA Best:** Supports the ongoing investment in the funding of our public hospital system. Any investment should be inclusive of increased spending on medical research, increased access and equity to health services in general including hospital beds.

**Greens:** Support greater investment in both our public hospital system and preventative health measures that will keep people out of hospital, thus reducing such pressures.

### **Q. 2: What is your policy regarding the Lyell McEwin, Modbury Hospital and the delivery of services across NALHN?**

**Labor:** Will spend \$52.5 million to expand the Emergency Department at the Lyell McEwin, and a total of \$91.5 million in upgrades at Modbury.

**Liberal:** Will redistribute surgical services across NALHN with Modbury Hospital taking a larger volume of low to medium complexity surgery. Will also invest \$110 in Modbury, including the re-establishment of a High Dependency Unit.

**SA Best:** Believe that the physical hospital infrastructure particularly in the NALHN and the SALHN requires extensive review with regard to services, population growth trends as part of a wider review of health services

**Greens:** Support RACS's call for an expansion of the Lyell McEwin and Modbury Hospital services.

### **Q. 3: What is your engagement strategy to foster a culture of mutual respect and ensure decision making is clinician-led?**

**Labor:** Labor's Clinical Engagement Strategy will be guided by a series of workshops currently being undertaken across the health networks. The intention of this is to inform new processes and future pathways for independent clinical advice to be provided by clinicians to the Minister for Health, to better inform future policies and strategies for the provision of health care.

**Liberal:** Committed to establishing a 'Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health' and to decentralise the public health system through the establishment of boards of management for each Local Health Network. Clinicians will be included in the membership of each board, and boards will also be required to develop a formal clinical engagement strategy.

**SA Best:** Future decisions on restructuring of health service and models of service delivery need to be inclusive of all relevant clinical leaders and be driven by clinical leadership.

**Greens:** Support evidence-based health policy and see great value establishing a clinical advisory group as a pathway to greater transparency in the operation of our health system

### **Q. 4: What is your strategy to maintain and increase training posts within the public hospital system?**

**Labor:** SA Health, through the SA Medical Education and Training (SA MET) Health Advisory Council, is developing the document 'Medical Education and Training Principles - our strategic priority' which will give clear commitments to ensuring that South Australia continues to have a well-trained surgical workforce. It will also set out the principles that guide how this will be achieved, such as establishing clear governance systems.

**Liberal:** The establishment and retention of training posts will be explored as part of the state-wide workforce strategies and plans (see next answer). There will be various strategies to increase training and workforce numbers to rural areas through the implementation of a rural workforce plan.

**SA Best:** Recognise the need to increase the number of surgical training positions in our health system. In principle supports increased funding, and a restructure in training positions across all medical disciplines

**Greens:** Believe it is important to stocktake the number of training positions available across the health system to allow for better future workforce planning. Strongly support training positions in country hospitals, as well as in the private sector. Also support the preservation and unhampered use of special purpose funds for research, while improving governance arrangements where appropriate

### **Q. 5: How does your party plan to build the surgical workforce of the future to address South Australia's ageing population and health needs?**

**Labor:** Committed to the development of a comprehensive Clinical Workforce Plan for the public health system. Will establish structures for ongoing clinical workforce planning to be prioritised to ensure that we have a surgical workforce capable of meeting the future challenges that will be presented by South Australia's ageing population.

**Liberal:** SA Health will engage LHNs in the development and implementation of state-wide workforce strategies and plans. Will also dedicate \$40 million to tackle overdue elective surgery, and are to transparent reporting on outpatient waiting times.

**SA Best:** Support in principle the growth in the number of surgical training and retention of practicing surgeons within the states' public health system. Will commit to working with an interagency clinical advisory body to establish surgical workforce needs.

**Greens:** Support an overall increase in surgeon numbers, particularly in specialist areas in order to secure our future health needs.

### **Q. 6: What will your party do to ensure that public patients have access to the highest quality of surgical technology?**

**Labor:** Committed to continuous improvement to ensure we deliver a contemporary, high performing health and will continue to invest in technologies.

**Liberal:** A clinician-led Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health will guide access to quality procedures and treatments and the technologies required to deliver them.

**Greens:** Support the resourcing of new technologies where there is evidence of benefits to patients and the health system.

### **Q 7: Does your party remain committed to the development of a hybrid operating theatre at the nRAH and if so are you able to provide a timeline when the facility will be available?**

**Labor:** SA Health are undertaking detailed work to consider a proposal for hybrid suite at the RAH following a six month post-occupancy evaluation. A hybrid suite will be considered as part of the evaluation.

**Liberal:** Will undertake a clinical audit of the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. As part of the audit, the view of RACS and other professional associations will be sought.

**SA Best:** In principle support.

**Greens:** Yes, as soon as practically possible.

**Q. 8: What is your party's position on the development of a second hybrid operating theatre at FMC?**

**Labor:** Any progression to the development of a second hybrid operating theatre at FMC must be considered against the demand for specialist surgeries and follow a comprehensive evaluation of the proposed theatre.

**Liberal:** Will consider the need for a hybrid operating theatre at FMC.

**SA Best:** In principle support.

**Greens:** Support

**Q. 9: The mortality audit program is part of an effective quality assurance activity aimed at the ongoing improvement of surgical care. The Current contract expires at the end of December 2018. RACS seeks a commitment from your party that a further three years funding will be supported.**

**Labor:** Supportive of the audit program. However, as is required with all Government contracts, the program will require review before a decision is made on extending its funding.

**Liberal:** Actively support quality initiatives such as SAASM and anticipate that the SAASM contract will be renewed.

**SA Best:** The mortality audit program is a key element of the current governance structure and will be supported.

**Greens:** Support three more years' worth of funding.

**Q. 10: What are your party's policies to address alcohol-related harm?**

**Labor:** Committed to supporting the South Australian Alcohol and Other Drug Strategy 2017-2021.

**Liberal:** Will actively promote responsible alcohol consumption, including through their preventative health initiatives (Better Prevention for a Healthy South Australia and Targeted Preventative Health)

**SA Best:** Will support all reasonable efforts made to address alcohol related health and social issues.

**Greens:** Believe a harm minimisation approach is the most appropriate way to reduce the adverse health, social and economic consequences of drug use, for both the individual user and the community.

**Q. 11: Will you commit to raising this matter at COAG to assist in gaining agreement that all states and territories would commit to recognising 12 months' of continuous service in the public hospital system in Australia for eligibility to paid parental leave, rather than service in any one particular state or territory?**

**Labor:** Committed to raising at the next COAG meeting.

**Liberal:** A Marshall Liberal Government will commit to discussing the issue of paid parental leave. Before making a commitment to raise at COAG they would also consult all stakeholders so that we are aware of all ramifications of such a decision.

**SA Best:** Support in principle the introduction of transportable Parental, Annual and Long Service leave entitlements within a national agreement of state and territory health services.

**Greens:** Yes.

**Q. 12: Will you work with hospital and health services to create an environment conducive to flexible training for surgical trainees?**

**Labor:** Yes.

**Liberal:** Yes

**SA Best:** Agrees in principle to the development of more flexible surgical training models

**Greens:** Yes.