

FACT SHEET

Government Response to the Garling Report

Caring Together: The Health Action Plan for NSW

The Garling Report was the most significant review of acute health services ever undertaken in NSW. The Report identified the great strengths of our health system. It also identified some problems and the need to re-focus on patient care.

Since receiving the Report in November last year over 12,000 people have provided input either face to face, via the web, workshops and submissions.

The consultation process found:

- The Garling report has been well received;
- Implementation needs to be local and led through clinicians;
- Priority should be given to clinical services;
- Four pillars are supported in principle but there needs to be more consultation on implementation.
- The patient must become the centre of our health care system;
- Clinicians, managers and support staff must work together in the interests of patient care;
- Infection control must improve;
- Communication with patients and about patient care must improve;
- We need to be smarter about dealing with demand – workforce re-design, new models of care; and
- We need a better link between services and community need – rather than being driven by the location of facilities.

Of the 139 recommendations – we are accepting 134.

There are three stages of the government response, supported by an additional \$485 million:

- **Stage 1 – now**
Immediate change – to build trust and demonstrate commitment to improving our health care system. Patients at the centre of the care system and better experiences for people using health care services - services that are safe, competent and compassionate.
- **Stage 2 – in 6 months**
Report on progress to date and then signal a series of actions to allow sustainable change – services linked to community need, workforce capacity and resources.
- **Stage 3 – 12 months later**
An intergenerational plan for the future, significant change in thinking and culture to create the future health system.

MONITORING OUR PROGRESS

The Minister for Health will establish a Community and Clinician Advisory Council to support implementation. To ensure independent monitoring of the recommendations there will be an independent audit with an independent monitoring Panel reporting to a new sub-committee of Cabinet, for health.

Regular progress reports will be made publically.
