

For
the
Future

112 more
hospital
beds



South
Australian
Labor



Acknowledgment of country.

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians whose ancestral lands we live and work upon and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and respect their deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to Country. We also pay our respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their nations in South Australia, as well as those across Australia.

Foreword

Ramping is the worst it's been in SA's history – more than quadrupling since the Liberals came to government.

And our ambulance response times are the worst in the nation.

The cause of ramping is “bed block” – patients stuck in the emergency department or on wards because there's nowhere else to go.

Many of those patients are people experiencing a mental health crisis – that's why we'll deliver 98 more mental health beds, as part of our 300-bed plan to help fix the ramping crisis.

But there are other South Australians stuck in hospital who also constitute a major cause of ramping; people who no longer need acute-level care, but still need a level of care.

This might be an older person needing aged care, backlogged on a waiting list, or someone waiting months for long-term NDIS support after a life-altering injury.

Clinicians say more rehabilitation and recovery beds – “sub-acute” beds – are desperately needed to help alleviate the pressure on hospitals and reduce ramping.

That's why Labor will build and operate 112 more sub-acute beds at Flinders Medical Centre, Lyell McEwin Hospital, Modbury Hospital, and Gawler Hospital.

Importantly our commitment includes staff to open these beds. With these beds to come online between now and 2025.

These 112 beds form a major component of our 300-bed plan to help fix the ramping crisis.

Our commitments so far amount to a massive investment in our health system.

And we're not done yet.



Peter Malinauskas MP
SA Labor Leader



WHY WE'RE DOING THIS

Ramping has increased by 485% since the Liberals came to power, the worst it's been in South Australia's history.

Adelaide has the worst response times in the nation, with 10% of 000 calls waiting 34.4 minutes or more, compared to a national average of just 22 minutes.

Last year, paramedics were ramped for 28,160 hours. That's 1,173 days – or 3.2 years – of our ambos' time, sitting outside a hospital instead of responding to the next 000 call.

In October last year we experienced the worst month of ramping in South Australian history, at 2,868 hours – just one month before the Marshall Government opened our borders to COVID-19.

In January, paramedics experienced a week where just 32% of Priority 2 lights-and-sirens cases were reached on time. Under Labor, 85% of these cases were reached on time.

Paramedics are increasingly speaking out about "uncovered" call-outs – 000 calls left waiting with no ambulance available to respond.

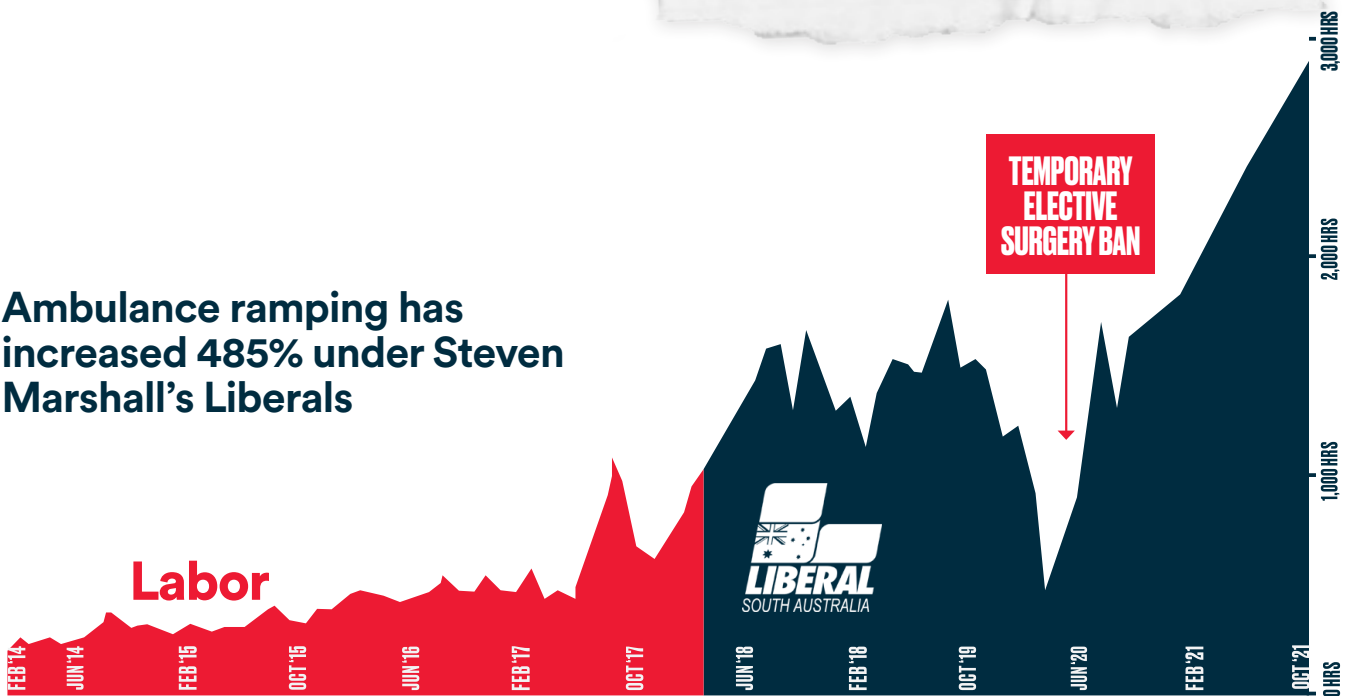


Marshall's Mad Max moment as Lib costings questioned

A gaffe from Health Minister Stephen Wade set the tone for the Marshall Government's day on the hustings, as an overnight half-billion dollar hospital expansion pledge was whittled down to less than a quarter of that amount.

InDaily | 24 February 2021

Ambulance ramping has increased 485% under Steven Marshall's Liberals



Source: SA Ambulance Service, Transfer of Care Delays for Ambulances (Ramping) hours per month 2014 to 2021.

The source of ramping is “bed block”; patients stuck in beds too long, preventing other patients who need these beds from accessing them. This is caused by a severe lack of resources inside and outside our hospitals.

Only 61% of South Australian emergency department patients are seen on time – dropping 4% since last year and compared to a national average of 71%.

SA is the worst mainland state for the length of time patients spend in the ED – with 39% of patients spending more than four hours waiting for a bed.

Under the Liberals, ramping hit record levels – and it’s only getting worse. In 2021, ramping was 485% worse than just four years ago, before the Liberals came into Government.

Frequently our public hospitals are occupied by South Australians who are in a stable condition, but not ready to go back home. This includes patients waiting for placement in an aged care facility, or for an NDIS support package.

Far from fulfilling their promises at the last election to increase bed numbers, the Liberals have spent most of their time in office trying to reduce bed numbers.

While boasting about a marginal increase in emergency department beds, they’ve failed to address the dire lack of inpatient beds – simply creating a bigger funnel for an overflowing hospital system and exacerbating existing “access block”.

And in their first two years of Government, the Liberals cut \$11 million from ambulance services.

The longest wait in the nation

22 mins

NATIONAL AVERAGE

34.4 mins

ADELAIDE

Source: Productivity Commission Report on Government Services 2022 - ambulance response times 2020-21, 90th percentile

‘Just let me die’:
93-year-old woman stuck
in ramped ambulance
at RAH for three hours

A 93-year-old dementia patient stuck in a ramped ambulance for three hours on Monday morning pleaded with her daughter to let her die.

AdelaideNOW | 10 May 2021





Lyell McEwin Hospital

It was Labor who invested \$373.3 million to upgrade Lyell McEwin Hospital when we were last in Government.

It was Labor who funded and planned the redevelopment of the emergency department at the Lyell McEwin Hospital that the Liberals have been all too willing to take credit for.

And it was Labor who created expansion capacity at the Lyell McEwin for future beds when they were needed, with an entire empty floor available on the southern side of the hospital.

The Liberals will happily claim all the credit for our ideas, but they've failed to invest in the future of Lyell McEwin Hospital.



Modbury Hospital

In 2017, Labor announced a fully-funded commitment for a \$90 million expansion of Modbury Hospital, including a boost to surgical capacity and beds to reduce ramping.

Under the Liberals we have seen significant instances of ramping at Modbury Hospital, just like the rest of our metropolitan hospitals – there is clearly a need for additional hospital capacity.

While the Marshall Liberal Government was happy to take all the credit for Labor's commitments to Modbury Hospital, they have failed to plan for the emerging health needs of the North East.

Gawler Hospital

The peri-urban community of Gawler and surrounds is a growing area, and Gawler Hospital must expand to meet the health needs of its expanding population.

More bed capacity at Gawler Hospital can also help to reduce the pressure on the overwhelmed Lyell McEwin Hospital.



Flinders Medical Centre

Many of the most shocking examples of ramping we've seen were at Flinders.

Countless videos of piled-up ambulances, "Code Yellow" disaster hospital overcrowding, and deaths on the ramp.

Labor invested \$385 million into Flinders Medical Centre when last in government.

The Liberals' only commitment to Flinders was an emergency department expansion, which the Premier declared as a key plan in his plan to "fix" ramping "almost immediately."

But the project came under fire for a net zero increase of beds at the hospital – closing 30 hospital beds at the same time.

Just days after the new emergency department opened, paramedics revealed "a new record" for the worst ramping at Flinders – with two elderly patients ramped for over seven hours.

Flinders needs more hospital beds so patients can leave the emergency department, reducing ramping.

All SA's public hospitals were over capacity on Monday, with 'internal disaster' recorded at Flinders Medical Centre

The Advertiser | 3 May 2021



Elderly woman dies after ramped for more than an hour in ambulance at Flinders Medical Centre carpark

An elderly woman taken to Flinders with a non-life-threatening condition died after her ambulance was ramped for more than an hour because of overcrowding, the union says.

The Advertiser | 20 September 2019

Third patient dies this year after ramping outside of Adelaide hospital

ABC News | 18 November 2019

LABOR'S

300-BED PLAN

Labor will deliver 300 hospital beds as part of our plan to fix the ramping crisis.

Already we've announced a massive investment in 282 beds – including 242 hospital beds, 20 in-home mental health beds, and 20 drug and alcohol rehabilitation beds.

Labor's beds are fully-costed to open as soon as they're built, with a plan of both capital and recurrent funding.

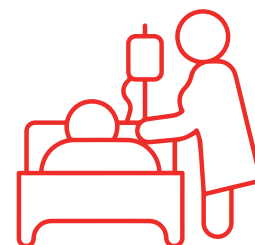
This is in stark contrast to the Liberals' policy on the run – with the Liberals' health boost boiling down to just \$123 million in new money, split across four separate projects and zero funding to staff and open new beds.



Labor	Liberal
MODBURY HOSPITAL	
\$169 million Cancer Centre, 12 chemo spaces 72 beds + staff	\$22 million 16 empty beds + no extra staff
LYELL MCEWIN HOSPITAL	
\$49 million 24 beds + staff	\$47 million 48 empty beds + no extra staff
NOARLUNGA HOSPITAL	
\$50.4 million 24 beds + staff	\$20 million No extra beds + no extra staff
TOTAL BEDS COMMITMENT TO DATE	
\$531 million 300 beds + staff	\$123 million 88 empty beds + no extra staff



LIBERALS
\$123 million
 ON 88 EMPTY BEDS



LABOR
\$532 million
 ON 300 BEDS
 + STAFF TO
 OPERATE THEM

LABOR'S 300-BED PLAN

242 hospital beds so far

... and we're not done yet.

**16
BEDS**

Gawler Hospital

\$28.3 million

**24
BEDS**

Lyell McEwin Hospital

\$49 million

**72
BEDS**

Modbury Hospital

\$140.6 million

**24
BEDS**

Queen Elizabeth Hospital

\$53.7 million

**50
BEDS**

**New Women's and
Children's Hospital**

\$100 million

**24
BEDS**

Flinders Medical Centre

\$49 million

**24
BEDS**

Noarlunga Hospital

\$50.4 million

**8
BEDS**

Mount Gambier Hospital

\$16 million





**PART OF OUR
300 MORE
BEDS POLICY**

112 HOSPITAL BEDS

COST: \$213 million

Labor will open 112 hospital beds across both metropolitan and peri-urban Adelaide, as part of our 300 more beds policy.

These additional sub-acute beds will directly contribute to fixing the ramping crisis, by freeing up acute beds and spaces in emergency, allowing patients more appropriate environments for recovery and rehabilitation.

Labor will deliver 112 additional sub-acute hospital beds in total, fully funded for the next four years, including:

- ✓ 48 sub-acute beds at Modbury Hospital
- ✓ 24 sub-acute beds at Flinders Medical Centre
- ✓ 24 sub-acute beds at Lyell McEwin Hospital
- ✓ 16 sub-acute beds at Gawler Hospital



MODBURY HOSPITAL

COST: \$87 million

Labor will open 48 permanent sub-acute beds at Modbury Hospital as part of a \$169 million investment in improving health for North East residents.

The staff to operate and use these beds fully funded in our commitment.



Source: GoogleMaps

LYELL MCEWIN HOSPITAL

COST: \$49 million

A Malinauskas Labor Government will open 24 permanent sub-acute beds at Lyell McEwin Hospital, costed to be fully staffed and online in 2025.

These beds will be constructed in the cold shell that was created for future capacity under Labor's LMH Stage C redevelopment.



Source: The Bunyip Press

GAWLER HOSPITAL

COST: \$28.3 million

Labor will operate 16 permanent sub-acute beds at Gawler Hospital, to meet the growing needs of this peri-urban community and help reduce ramping across the state.

These beds will help to reduce the pressure on the Lyell McEwin Hospital.



Source: The Advertiser

FLINDERS MEDICAL CENTRE

COST: \$49 million

Labor will open 24 permanent sub-acute beds at Flinders Medical Centre, costed to be fully staffed and online in 2025.

These additional beds will help to repair the damage from when the Liberals closed inpatient beds at the hospital as part of the emergency department works.

