



# Media Release



**The Hon Matthew Guy MLC**  
Minister for Planning

Friday 17 December 2010

## **PLANNING AMENDMENT PAVES WAY FOR PORTLAND HELIPAD**

Planning Minister Matthew Guy today announced he had amended the Glenelg Planning Scheme to facilitate the use and development of a helipad at Portland Hospital.

"Amendment C59 to the Glenelg Planning Scheme cuts red tape to support the proposal for improved emergency access to the Portland Hospital through developing a helipad on land known as *The Ploughed Field* directly opposite the emergency department of the hospital," Mr Guy said.

"The amendment is also consistent with Victorian planning objectives and the Baillieu Government's plan to boost regional development.

"Premier Ted Baillieu visited Portland on 9 October and committed to cutting red tape. The Coalition Government has delivered on that commitment.

"This helipad will greatly contribute to the health and safety of the Portland community.

"The Baillieu Government is committed to the growth of regional Victoria, and this amendment will greatly assist in improving access to health services in Victoria's south west," Mr Guy said.

A detailed development plan will now be prepared in consultation with Glenelg Shire Council, Portland District Health and the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

Member for South West Coast Denis Napthine said he welcomed today's announcement.

"This is a victory for commonsense," Dr Napthine said.

"Every second is vital when it comes to saving lives. Building of an emergency helipad opposite the hospital will maximise the life saving benefit of the south west emergency helicopter, which our community fought so hard to obtain.

"I congratulate Minister Guy on this decision. This decision and the building of this emergency helipad will save lives," Dr Napthine said.