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## **WOMEN BUILD CONSTRUCTION CAREERS AT GRIFFITH BASE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT**

Women employed in the construction of the new Griffith Base Hospital are contributing valuable skills to the \$250 million redevelopment, while building their careers and gaining experience.

Health Infrastructure Executive Director for Rural and Regional projects, Amanda Bock said women are working in a diverse range of roles, including project engineers, administrators, and design managers.

“The redevelopment has provided women with a fantastic opportunity to not only grow their careers but thrive in the construction industry,” Ms Bock said.

“Working with building contractor ADCO Constructions, women are playing a significant role in delivering one of the most important infrastructure projects in the township of Griffith.

Ms Bock said the Griffith Hospital Redevelopment is estimated to support around 110 direct jobs, as well as many indirect jobs over the life of the project.

“We know growing the number of women working in construction sites contributes to building a talented, diverse, and inclusive work environment for all employees,” Ms Bock said.

The NSW Government is currently working with industry to achieve an ambitious goal to increase the number of women in construction trade and non-traditional roles, with a view towards reaching a more gender-balanced industry.

Project Engineer and Griffith local Eliza Blight said the redevelopment provided the opportunity to return from Melbourne to her hometown to work on the project, while being closer to family.

“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to work on a largescale construction project in my hometown. It’s a significant community building and I’m very happy to work on the project and gain valuable experience,” Ms Blight said.

Ms Blight has a Master of Construction Management and an established career working on commercial construction projects. Other women employed on the project include Senior Project Engineer Erica Drummond, Site Engineer Shallmae Lao, and Design Manager, Kelsey Godwin-Smith.

Ms Bock said Health Infrastructure is committed to attracting and encouraging women to develop their careers in the construction industry, and actively supports their roles, education and future career opportunities.

“Ongoing demand for infrastructure means the construction industry provides many employment opportunities, including trade roles, engineers, surveying, traffic control, health vehicle operators, architects, and construction managers,” Ms Bock said.

The NSW Government is investing \$250 million in the Griffith Base Hospital redevelopment, which will provide Griffith and the surrounding communities with modern and sustainable health facilities closer to home.

The new purpose-built 3-storey Clinical Services Building, which is due for completion in 2025, has been designed to support contemporary models of health care and will house all major health services under one roof.

## **ENDS**

Images of some of the women employed on the project can be found: [HERE](#)

Photo captions:

1. L to R: Cath Taylor (Heath Infrastructure), Eliza Blight (ADCO), Amanda Bock (Heath Infrastructure) and Erica Drummond (ADCO)
2. Site Engineer Shallmae Lao at Griffith Base Hospital