

Aspen Medical to provide health services for the Albury Wodonga Military Area

ON 22 OCTOBER 2007, at 1601 hours, Aspen Medical officially transitioned to provide full service delivery of health services for the Albury Wodonga Military Area. Operating out of Latchford Barracks (Bonegilla, Vic), Aspen Medical will be responsible for provision of primary health care services, allied health services, low dependency care, general practice dental services, specialist outpatient services, and diagnostic services, and administration of all inpatient services.

This is only the second time that the complete health services for an entire Australian base have been successfully contracted out to a commercial provider by the Australian Defence Force. Puckapunyal (Vic) has been operating successfully under a similar model for 2.5 years.

The Albury Wodonga Military Area centres around two main Army Bases, with the primary focus being the training of Army personnel through the Army Logistics Training Centre, which is the largest unit in the Albury Wodonga Military Area. About 500 ADF and Australian Public Service personnel are permanently located in the Albury Wodonga Military Area, and about 6000 trainees attend courses there throughout the year.

Defence Health Services is pleased to report the overall success of this project, and the satisfaction of all involved, from commencement of the project in February 2006, through the transition to full service delivery in October 2007. This has involved significant work with all the stakeholders in the Albury Wodonga Military Area and within DHS, and the



This picture, taken on the handover day (22 October 2007), shows Glenn Keys, Managing Director of Aspen Medical; Martin Bowles, DEPSEC Defence Support; and Brigadier Tony Gill, Director General Health Services.

assistance of consultants. The success of this project is due in no small way to the excellent work of all those involved.

Allison Hinchcliffe

Project Manager, Health Services Evaluation and Contracting
Defence Health Services, Canberra, ACT
Allison.Hinchcliffe@defence.gov.au