



27 January 2012

## **KERRY SHINE MP**

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### **State Government recognises outstanding Toowoomba nurse**

The Bligh Government has paid tribute to a Toowoomba Hospital nurse for her role in delivering an outstanding contribution to local health services.

Oncology Services Nurse Unit Manager Andrea Barber will receive a Queensland Health Australia Day Achievement Award on Friday 27 January at the Day Oncology Unit.

Local Member for Toowoomba Kerry Shine said Ms Barber was nominated by her colleagues and Toowoomba Hospital recognised her total dedication to cancer care services.

"We are building a healthier Queensland by delivering more services sooner and closer to home," he said.

"These awards recognise an individual's outstanding commitment to the delivery of health services to their local communities and Andrea certainly more than meets that criteria."

"Andrea has been instrumental in the planning and development of Toowoomba Hospital's new Regional Cancer Care Centre due for completion in the middle of this year," added Mr Shine.

The Regional Cancer Care Centre will mark another major milestone for local healthcare on the Darling Downs, by providing better cancer treatment, closer to home.

The Toowoomba Hospital's patients will benefit by having a state-of-the-art 24 bed ward providing 12 cancer and haematology service beds and 12 palliative care beds.

In addition to these services four chemotherapy chair services will be placed in the existing Toowoomba Hospital Oncology Day Unit, adjacent to the oncology outpatients.

The Queensland public service component of the annual Australia Day Awards is coordinated by the Premier's Department for the Australia Day Council as a means of recognising the outstanding efforts of certain public servants.

"Queensland Health's 80,000-strong workforce does amazing work every day of the week," Mr Shine said.

"These Australia Day awards recognise the significant contribution of Queensland Health staff who are consistently striving to improve health services in Queensland."

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