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## **Local Health Services must keep up with Armadale's future population growth.**

Local MLA, Dr Tony Buti has raised concerns at the State Government's capacity to provide enough beds and medical services at Armadale Hospital in the coming years of unprecedented population growth.

"The Armadale area population is currently around 75,000 and is expected to reach over 138,127 by 2031 – that is an increase of 84%," Dr Buti said.

"Suburbs of Armadale such as Forrestdale, Harrisdale and Piara Waters have experienced some of the largest and fastest growth in Perth."

Dr Buti said, "The Armadale Hospital web-site states that the hospital has 200-500 beds."

"It would be reasonable to assume from this information that the hospital actually has 200 beds; if it did have 500 beds it would still be far too few to service a local and surrounding population of at least 75,000," he said.

"Our elderly have been forced to travel to Bentley Hospital for cataract surgery, and we have seen a maternity ward closed down at Armadale."

"Many medical specialists previously practising at Armadale have moved onto other hospitals."

Dr Buti said, "Armadale Hospital needs to have appropriate forward planning measures and infrastructure in place to address the future health requirements of Armadale residents."

"Health service delivery in the Armadale area needs to keep pace with the population growth."

"The State Government must be proactive in providing for the health needs of an expanding population. They cannot continue to put the people of the Armadale area on the backburner."

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