

# Geelong Advertiser

Geelong

## Anam Cara win as Labor matches pledge to help move to Armstrong Creek

Greg Dundas, Geelong Advertiser

June 2, 2016 7:48pm

PLANS to relocate Geelong hospice Anam Cara House from the CBD to a brand new and much larger facility at Armstrong Creek have taken a significant step forward.



Catherine King confirmed the funding pledge.

Federal Labor Health spokeswoman Catherine King confirmed her party would match the Government's \$5 million commitment to the project.

The Opposition's Corio MP Richard Marles and Corangamite candidate Libby Coker joined Ms King for the announcement at the existing facility: the St Mary's Presbytery building on Myers St.

Anam Cara House has been at that location since 2007, but is in negotiations for a \$2 million parcel of land at Armstrong Creek, where it plans to increase its capacity by building a facility worth about \$15 million.

The organisation is seeking philanthropic and other support to help realise the new 20-bed centre for guests of all ages approaching the end of their life.

It presently has four rooms and day hospice services.

Its plans would double employment to almost 80 staff.

Anam Cara House ambassador Bob Gartland said, with federal money now assured, the organisation was aiming to have its facility built within four years.

"We believe the hospice is not just about the end of life. It's about living until you pass away, and we want to provide the best possible environment we can, not just for residents but families as well," Mr Gartland said.