



18 May 2017

## **SEYMOUR AND YEA HEALTH SERVICES CONSIDERING POSSIBLE MANAGEMENT MERGER**

The Seymour and Yea Health Services have announced they are currently exploring the possibility of merging their management teams.

Due diligence is underway, with a view to establishing better and expanded local health services for patients, and enhancing levels of care in both Yea and Seymour.

Under the proposal, both hospitals would fully retain their existing hospital names, services and staffing levels, and patient care will continue as usual.

Kristin Michaels, Board Chair, Yea & District Memorial Hospital, said the proposed merger with Seymour Health would secure the future of the hospital and better prepare it to serve the ongoing needs of the Yea community.

“The board of Yea & District Memorial Hospital believes now is the right time to unite the management team of our hospital with that of Seymour Health,” Ms Michaels said.

“The merger would secure the long-term future of the Yea & District Memorial Hospital and help expand local health services in Yea, which could include a foot clinic and a dental chair as well as enhanced Well Women’s Clinics, podiatry services and palliative care.”

Annie Fletcher-Nicholls, Chair, Seymour Health, said the proposal was a positive step for Seymour Health and the community.

“A merger would support further cooperation between staff and provide opportunity for better professional development and knowledge sharing,” Ms Fletcher-Nicholls said.

“We welcome the opportunity to partner with Yea & District Memorial Hospital, and look forward to continuing to serve both local communities as a new, united health service.”

The due diligence process for the proposed merger is expected to be finalised in coming months.