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MSWA keen to get building on Shenton Park site

Multiple Sclerosis Society of WA CEO, Marcus Stafford said he's keen to start building a new high support accommodation facility in Shenton Park for people with MS and other neurological conditions as soon as possible.

"We're ready to go as soon as the ink is dry on our agreement with the State Government. The old Shenton Park hospital site is a great location and I'd like to personally thank Health Minister Kim Hames, Disability Minister Helen Morton and the government for the opportunity to build accommodation that meets the needs of our Members in Perth," said Mr Stafford.

"Our other facilities across Perth are at capacity and we're finding that demand for our services across Western Australia continues to grow. The \$2 million Shenton Park facility will offer people with disabilities high support accommodation with a private bedroom, lounge, kitchen and bathroom, so they have the best of both worlds – around the clock care and a great place to call home."

As well as MSWA's high support accommodation facility, the old Shenton Park hospital site will also be a new home for the Leukaemia Foundation and an urban village for up to 1,600 homes.

"The Members living at our Treendale high support accommodation facility near Bunbury have become part of the community and we think the same will happen for the people who move into Shenton Park," added Mr Stafford.

"And with good public transport links to Shenton Park, it means that family and friends will be able to visit easily."

Mr Stafford said that it was because of the public's continued donations and support as well as the Mega Home Lottery that MSWA was able to build the new facility.

"As well as the Shenton Park facility we're also spending another \$4 million to build high support facilities in Bunbury and Albany and we're also looking for another location in Perth's northern suburbs," Mr Stafford added.

"MSWA is also the largest contributor to research to find the cause and cure for MS in Australia. This year alone we have invested a record \$1.5 million into research and for the first time that includes half a million dollars that has been set aside for WA based research projects."

This includes:

- MSWA Post-Doctoral MS Research Fellowships
- Top-Up PhD Scholarships and
- Social and Applied Research Grants.

"We're proud of our leadership position" Stafford said, "and we are determined to do everything possible to solve the puzzle that surrounds this condition."

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