

MURDOCH

Hospital helipad passes with flying colours



The helipad at Fiona Stanley Hospital underwent its first tests last week.

FIRST tests of the helipad at Fiona Stanley Hospital were held last week, with noise and vibration levels monitored to ensure they were within acceptable limits.

When the hospital opens next year, the helipad, which is located above the emergency department, is expected to be used about twice a week.

Health Minister Kim Hames said it would be the only hospital outside the Perth CBD with a helipad.

"This is primarily a floating deck on rubber bearing pads which will mitigate vibration to improve patient comfort," he said.

"It can easily accommodate the two largest emergency helicopters in the State."

Dr Hames said all areas of the hospital within a 50m radius of the helicopter flight path had been fitted with double-glazed windows to reduce flight noise in the hospital.

Dr Hames said the hospital was on track to start taking patients in October 2014 as part of a staged commissioning process.