

# Region's first GP super clinic to open mid-2013

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THE region's first GP super clinic is a step closer to reality with plans due to be submitted to Tweed Shire Council within weeks.

The new \$7 million clinic, which will house more than 20 doctors, nurses and allied health professionals, will be built at Corporation Circuit in Banora Point and is expected to ease the load on nearby Tweed Hospital.

Plans for the clinic will be submitted to council this month, with construction expected to get underway next year ahead of an expected opening by mid-2013.

It will be the first super clinic to be built in the area with tender applications for a Gold Coast super clinic having closed in May.

The tender for the Tweed clinic



was won by private consortium Ausjendia Pty Ltd, comprised of three highly respected GPs from the area, including Dr Austin Sterne, Dr Diane Blanckensee and Dr Jennifer Soden, who between them boast 50 years' experience in medicine.

Dr Sterne said he expected the clinic would employ at least a further two or three GPs in addition to sev-

eral allied health professionals including in X-ray services, pharmacists, podiatrists, physios, psychologists and more.

Richmond MP Justine Elliot said she was pleased the Tweed project was finally underway.

Banora Point & District Residents' Association secretary Pat Tate said the clinic would be most welcome.

Turning the sod at the Tweed Heads Super Clinic site are Dr Austin Sterne, MP Justine Elliot, Banora Point and District Residents Association's Pat Tate and architect Andrew Armstrong