

Concept design consultation – May-July 2022

Background

The concept design for \$53 million Gunnedah Hospital Redevelopment was released in May 2022. This is the early design for the project and builds on the master plan which was unveiled in March 2022. The project includes a new building on the existing hospital site as the major component, and refurbishment of the existing inpatient building. The new building will house acute services including emergency, medical imaging, maternity, birthing and the inpatient unit, as well as administration. Community health, outpatient clinics, and a new operating theatre will be housed in the fully refurbished building.

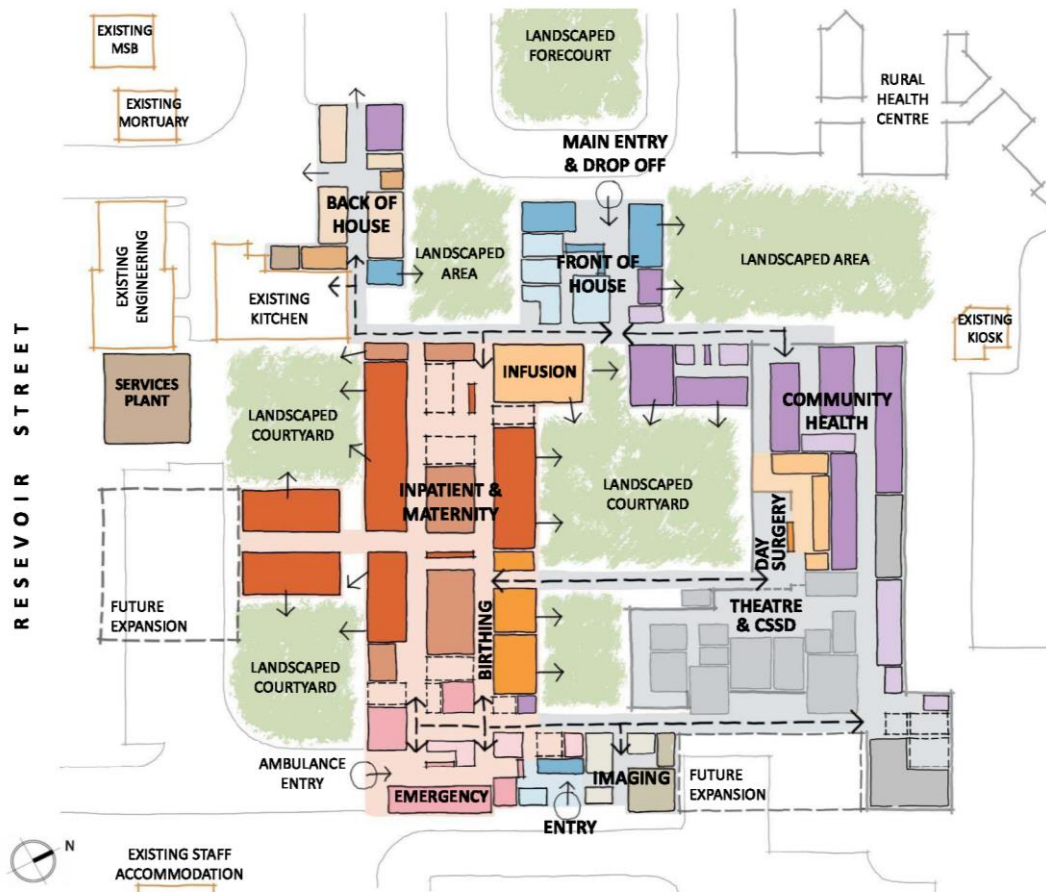


Image: the concept design for the Gunnedah Hospital

Consultation

The project team consulted on the concept design with staff, key stakeholders including Gunnedah Shire Council, PRAMS, the Evans family, Aboriginal community, Ambulance, local doctors, and the community during May, June and July 2022 in Gunnedah and online.

All the feedback received has been provided to the design team and the survey results are summarised below.

Concept design survey results

- ⇒ 30% of respondents were aged between 26-35, and 15% identified as Aboriginal.
- ⇒ 43% had been a patient, 22% identified as an interested community member, and 11% were staff.
- ⇒ Signage with welcoming language and directions is the most important feature when entering the facility, closely followed by proximity to the service required (artwork was rated the least important).
- ⇒ Toilets and bathrooms for visitors were most important in the visitor's space, followed by an indoor space that is separate to the shared patient areas (outdoor space considered the least important).
- ⇒ The highest priority for artworks is local, natural landscapes, followed by large photographs and painted murals.
- ⇒ Similar to the entry, clear signage and an easily identifiable reception is the most important aspect when visiting community health.
- ⇒ Privacy is the highest priority in the inpatient bedrooms, with a view to the outdoors also important, while access to a television was considered least important.
- ⇒ Respondents agree the colour scheme should be influenced by local flora.
- ⇒ In the landscaping a blend of open spaces and gardens is strongly supported, as well as a shaded area.

What's next?

The project team has commenced working on the next stage of the design, the schematic design, which includes the detailed layouts and floorplans. We anticipate the schematic design will be released for consultation in October/November 2022. The project team will continue to consult with staff and stakeholders throughout the design phase.

Further information on the project is available at:

www.hneinfra.health.nsw.gov.au/projects/gunnedah



Images: the project team engaging with staff and community members in Gunnedah in June 2022.