

New Banksia Mental Health Unit

The new Banksia Mental Health Unit project is moving ahead with enabling works commencing this month. Site fences are going up for the enabling works package which includes building a new Rotary Lodge and new staff accommodation to service the Tamworth Hospital campus.

The new staff accommodation and Rotary Lodge will be built near the site of the old helipad. They comprise a mixture of modern, single units and larger accommodation dwellings with shared amenities. The staff accommodation will consist of four self-contained units and complement additional units being placed later in the year as part of a

Rural Hospital Staff Accommodation Project. The modular units are being manufactured offsite and will be transported to the campus and re-assembled onsite.

The enabling works are expected to be complete by mid-2022 and are being delivered by Parkwood Modular Buildings, based at Somersby near the Central Coast.

The main works package for the project includes the demolition of the existing Rotary Lodge, followed by the construction of the new Banksia Unit on that site. The tender for the main works package will be issued following the completion of the design phase.



Above: Artist impressions of the new Rotary Lodge and staff accommodation units.

Consultation update

User groups are continuing to meet to work through the detailed design for the new unit and we continue to consult with our co-design team.

In late 2021 furniture samples were brought to Banksia for staff and consumers to view and provide feedback and selections on.

To date, consultation has directly involved more than 950 staff, consumers, carers and community members.

We have now received 470 comments on the designs, over half relating to the Detailed Design which we are working through now.

During this consultation period, the project team has received a large number of suggestions and feedback related to the design of the new mental health facility.

Landscaping, the façade and the internal journey within the unit have been the most popular items we have received feedback on.

We respect and value all feedback and will continue to work hard to achieve the best possible design outcome.

