

Design finalised for Murrurundi Hospital

The project team visited Murrurundi on 1-2 July to show off the artist impressions for the new hospital building.

The overwhelming majority of community feedback received on the concept designs supported a new hospital, over a refurbishment of the existing facility. A summary of the feedback received is included over the page.

The new facility will retain the name Murrurundi Wilson Memorial Hospital, and local residential aged care services will continue to be delivered by the existing local provider.

To allow the full use of the new hospital site, the existing hospital will be demolished once services are moved over to the new hospital. All

health services will continue throughout the construction period.

The existing hospital building is aged, contains contaminated materials, has structural issues, and is no longer suitable for the delivery of modern health services. Significant costs would be incurred for ongoing maintenance as well as repurposing the building for non-health use.

Opportunities are being explored to appropriately honour the history of the existing building with the community, and incorporate existing building components into the new build. The foundation stone, plaques and the time capsule will be preserved. Some salvaged building materials such as bricks will be incorporated into the landscaping of the new courtyard.

Where to next? Subject to required approvals it is anticipated that construction works on the new hospital will commence in late 2019.

Artist impression of the entry to the new hospital



What's included in your new hospital?

The focus of the redevelopment is on providing modern facilities to meet the needs of the local community. The new hospital will include:

- An 8-bed inpatient unit consisting of 4 single rooms and one 4-bed flexible ward
- Emergency services consisting of 1 resuscitation bay, 1 holding bay, 1 treatment room and 1 triage/consult room
- Primary and ambulatory care services consisting of 3 consultation rooms, 1 allied health treatment room and 1 multipurpose room
- Ambulance bay suitable for 2 vehicles (for direct access to ED, note this does not replace the Ambulance Station)
- 2 self-contained staff accommodation units

This represents an increase in **primary and ambulatory care services, emergency services, and new staff accommodation facilities.**

Consultation on the project

The redevelopment of the Murrurundi Hospital has included a wide range of stakeholder consultation including:

- ⇒ Mid 2017 – Local Health Advisory Committee (LHAC) presentation
- ⇒ Nov 2017 – Community consultation
- ⇒ July 2018 – Staff consultation
- ⇒ Aug 2018 – LHAC and Auxiliary updates
- ⇒ November 2018 – Council presentation
- ⇒ November 2018 – Staff consultation
- ⇒ Dec 2018 – Community consultation
- ⇒ December 2018-February 2019 – Community feedback on designs
- ⇒ May 2019 – Council, LHAC, Auxiliary, Ambulance updates
- ⇒ June/July 2019 – Staff, council and community consultation



Community consultation held in July 2019

Feedback questions and answers

Theme/s	Rationale
Staff accommodation	New staff accommodation will be constructed next to the new hospital. It will be two self-contained units, and an improvement on the current shared house.
Patient flow, safety, design	The new build design provides significantly improved patient flow, safety for staff and patients, and ease of maintenance. The outcomes achieved with the new building far exceeds that which could be achieved with the refurbishment of the existing building.
Future use of existing hospital building	The new build design requires the existing hospital to be demolished to allow for emergency and service vehicle access and staff accommodation construction. The existing hospital is also unsuitable for repurposing due to high maintenance costs, contaminated materials, and structural issues. Key items from the existing hospital will be preserved, and incorporated into the new building. Opportunities are also being explored to appropriately honour its history with the community.
Car parking	Car parking has been considered during the planning of your new facility and will meet current and projected needs.
Provision of meals	Meals will continue to be provided at the new health service, including for Meals on Wheels.
Arts and history	A community working group will be established to support the project team deliver Arts in Health at the new Murrurundi Wilson Memorial Hospital. This will not only consider visual art, but also heritage and cultural inclusion. We will be looking for community members to assist us – we will keep you posted when we are ready to commence this work.
Primary and ambulatory care services	The new build allows the opportunity to increase primary and ambulatory care services, which have been identified as priority areas for Murrurundi. There will be an increase from the 2 current rooms to 5 consult/treatment/triage rooms in the new build. There will also be more contemporary equipment to improve the patient experience.

“As a long term resident I am 100% for a new hospital as no matter how much you change an old building it is still dysfunctional.”

“Love the design of new hospital. Very much needed for quality of care.”

“A new build would far outweigh any benefits that a renovation would. The building is too old to be a functional state of the art health facility. Keeping it would not benefit the community.”



Improving patient care

Constructing new buildings are just one part of the redevelopment work - we're also redesigning the way we provide patient care through enhanced models of care. There's now a greater emphasis on primary health care, including health improvement and prevention programs, delivered in an integrated way. This means providing preventative care, targeting chronic disease, care at home or in the community and if hospitalisation is required, a shorter hospital stay. We're also better utilising technology such as Telehealth which supports consults and follow-ups via video conference. This means you could be in Murrurundi speaking to a specialist at Scone or Tamworth via Telehealth.

The redevelopment project at Murrurundi, through the delivery of the new building, will enhance capacity for primary and ambulatory care services, and provide more contemporary equipment to improve the patient experience.

To assist staff with this transition, a Change Manager has been appointed to work closely with the staff and the facility as they move towards the new models of care. Jennifer Haxton will be a regular face at the hospital and we hope you make her feel welcome.



Jen Haxton, our Change Manager for the Murrurundi Hospital Redevelopment

Opportunities for community involvement

As the project progresses, there will be opportunities for the community to be involved in a working group to provide feedback on art, history and cultural inclusion.

There will also be regular updates provided to the community as the redevelopment progresses.

Keep up-to-date

Project newsletters and information will be added to the Murrurundi project page on the MPS Program website at:

www.mps.health.nsw.gov.au/Projects/Murrurundi

or see the project boards displayed in the facility.

