

# BLAYNEY MPS REDEVELOPMENT

**Project Update - November 2023** 



The Blayney MPS Redevelopment has reached an important milestone with the completion of the design stages of the project. It has now progressed to planning submission and approvals and the finalisation of the tender for the main works construction contractor.

### Planning and design consultation wraps up

Keeping key stakeholders informed and providing opportunities for consultation and feedback has been a key focus throughout the planning and design stages of the redevelopment over the last 18 months.

Information and consultation sessions have been held at various stages and milestones, including master planning, Concept Design and Schematic Design, with feedback from staff, residents and their families, and the broader community integral in shaping the new health facility.

What our stakeholders told us is important to them in the new MPS:

- More care close to home
- Feels like a home
- Good for staff too
- Access to usable, enjoyable outdoor spaces
- Everyone is welcome
- Easy parking and access
- Well-managed construction
- Room to grow



### **Snapshot of Engagement and consultation activities**



\*Includes Blayney Health Council, Blayney Shire Council, local community groups/service clubs

## **Consultation informing design**

Some of the key changes to the design of the new MPS as a result of consultation:

- Access to courtyard directly from Residential Aged Care bedrooms.
- Palliative Care bedroom and lounge moved away from the main corridor (with courtyard access) to facilitate greater privacy for patients and families.
- Centralised staff station between Inpatient unit and Residential Aged Care unit.
- Emergency Department moved closer to Inpatient unit.
- Gym and Activity room moved to be off central corridor.
- Staff only areas moved to the north of the facility to facilitate greater security privacy for staff.
- · Pathology maintained within facility.

#### Schematic design well received

The last round of community consultation was held in July 2023 with the release of the Schematic Design, providing an opportunity for staff, residents, local Council and the community to view the designs, which included a 3D view of the front of the proposed new MPS and its floor plan.

These sessions included:

- · Staff information session
- · Residents and families' information session
- Aboriginal Focus Group
- Two pop-up community sessions at Bernardi's Marketplace
- Presentation to Blayney Health Council
- Presentation to Blayney Shire Council
- · Presentation to Blayney Rotary Club

Thank you to all of those people who attended a session and provided feedback.





### Take Five with Deb Higgs Nurse Manager, Blayney MPS



#### What does your role involve?

My role focuses on the management of clinical services at Blayney MPS, including acute care, residential aged care, emergency department, community services and Child and Family services. I am responsible for ensuring patient, resident and client care is of the highest quality and that patient journeys are as smooth as possible and directed by the patient's own goals.

#### How long have you worked at Blayney MPS?

16 years

# How involved have you been in the planning and design of the project?

I have been very involved especially in the planning of the clinical care areas.

# What do you think will be the benefits of the new MPS?

Service delivery will be more streamlined in an up-todate building, telehealth will provide greater access to a wider range of services and greater bed capacity will provide a site where we can look after more local people and perhaps lessen their stays at facilities further away from home.

# What are you most looking forward to in your new facility?

Single rooms for all our Residential Aged Care residents and easier and better access to their bathrooms!

# How are your staff and residents feeling about the redevelopment?

On the whole really good - there is some anxiety regarding the staging of the building process, but this can easily be overcome with good consultation and communication. Our staff are very skilled in finding solutions to challenges put in front of them.

### **About the redevelopment**

The Blayney MPS Redevelopment project is being delivered as part of the NSW Government's \$297 million Multipurpose Service Program to deliver health facilities across smaller rural and remote communities.

It will deliver a new purpose-built facility for aged care and HealthOne services, with more inpatient beds, increased chair-based services and room for future expansion. The new facility will be built on the existing Osman Street site, close to other medical and aged care services. It will be a modern facility which will improve health and aged care services for the people of Blayney.

Features of the new MPS include:



Residential aged care wing, all with single rooms and bathrooms



Increase in number of inpatient unit beds



Increase in ambulatory care treatment chairs



Increase in HealthOne rooms



One main entry to replace the three existing entries



Enhanced courtyards and outdoor spaces



### **Connecting with Wiradjuri Country**

Indigenous guidance and local knowledge have been integral to the development of the project's design to ensure the new Blayney MPS is a culturally safe and welcoming facility for all. A Walk on Country in July 2022 followed by three Aboriginal Focus Groups over the last year with local Aboriginal Elders and representatives has allowed the project and design teams to identify opportunities and have conversations about the site's history, stories and personal connections to the hospital and Wiradjuri local knowledge.

These listening sessions have highlighted the importance of reflecting Blayney's rich heritage, providing a holistic space, establishing a Yarning Circle and using native plants that draw people to the outdoors and nature in the design.

The materials and colours used in the interior spaces, including waiting rooms and inpatient rooms, as well as the outdoor spaces and landscaping will incorporate ideas shared at these sessions. Connecting with Country will also feature in the arts program currently being developed for the new facility by the Arts Working Group.

### **Next Steps**

The Blayney MPS project is on track to deliver new health and aged care facilities for the people of Blayney. Patterson Building Group was appointed to undertake early works on the Osman Street site which are now complete. Planning approval for the redevelopment is now underway. The main works contractor is expected to be announced in the coming months following the tender process.

Project updates will be provided throughout the construction process through works notifications, newsletters, social media and on the project website.

#### More information

For more information about the Blayney MPS Redevelopment please contact the project team at:

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