

## About the Redevelopment

The NSW Government has announced an additional \$40 million for the Cowra Hospital Redevelopment, bringing the total investment to \$110.2 million.

The recently revealed Cowra Hospital Redevelopment master plan provides expansion zones to meet the future needs of the community. These expansion zones can now be delivered and will include, an extra emergency department bay, a second full birthing suite, two additional inpatient beds, three additional chairs for renal and oncology as well as four more dental chairs and enhanced training and educational facilities. The new hospital will deliver:

- An emergency department,
- A general medical and surgery inpatient ward,
- A peri-operative service (a range of surgical procedures),
- A maternity unit with a dedicated nursery,
- Ambulatory care (services for outpatients),
- Oral health (dental clinic),
- Renal dialysis (dialysis treatment for outpatients),
- Oncology (chemotherapy treatments),
- Community Health and Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol services, and
- For the first time, Cowra Hospital will have a CT Scanner and an Ultrasound.



## Master planning consultation

The Cowra Hospital Redevelopment project team undertook master plan community consultation between March and May 2022. This included online and face to face briefings and drop-in information sessions with Cowra Hospital staff, the Cowra community, Local Health Council, General Practitioners, Cowra Shire Council, and Cowra Youth Council. The community was also encouraged to send feedback to the project team via the website as well as a dedicated project phone and email address.

The master plan outlined the vision for the new facility, which includes upgraded inpatient beds, contemporary facilities and new health services, including the hospital's first CT scanner.

Following master planning consultation, the project team has collated all feedback from staff and community. This important feedback is being used to inform the planning and design process as the project transitions into the next design phase known as concept design.

The community will be invited to give their feedback on the concept design in August 2022.

**Cowra Hospital master plan drop-in information sessions adding to plan in the Cowra Civic Centre foyer (left) and Public Meeting Room (below).**



# Consultation feedback

During master plan consultation, the project team received a range of feedback. The key feedback themes received during master plan consultation are outlined below and these will be incorporated into the concept design. The concept design will be available for community consultation in August 2022.

HERE'S WHAT YOU TOLD US	RESPONSE
<b>BUDGET</b>	
<b>Concern that the funding provided by the NSW Government for the redevelopment is insufficient.</b>	<p>The NSW Government has announced an additional \$40 million for the Cowra Hospital Redevelopment, bringing the total investment to \$110.2 million. The recently revealed Cowra Hospital Redevelopment master plan provides expansion zones to meet the future needs of the community. These expansion zones can now be delivered and will include, an extra emergency department bay, a second full birthing suite, two additional inpatient beds, three additional chairs for renal and oncology as well as four more dental chairs and enhanced training and educational facilities.</p>
<b>GREENFIELD (NEW SITE) OR REFURBISHING THE EXISTING HOSPITAL</b>	
<b>How and why was the existing site chosen as the preferred location?</b>	<p>The master plan and site selection review was undertaken with local and regional health staff.</p> <p>Some of the determining factors for remaining on the existing site included the close proximity to the town centre and existing health services, as well as the long association of the site as a health facility. The current site was also identified as providing expansive views of the district to support improved health and wellbeing for patients and their families and is an important part of the social infrastructure of the town.</p> <p>The existing site provided an opportunity to provide the community with new health facilities, within a timely program and without the cost of acquisition of a new site.</p> <p>Reuse of the existing hospital (refurbished) was discounted, as the existing hospital would have required extensive upgrades to meet current health and building standards. The improved services and clinical adjacencies determined through the master planning process would not have been achieved. In addition, refurbishment of the existing hospital would have been disruptive for patients and staff.</p>
<b>HELIPAD</b>	
<b>There were questions asked regarding how patients would access helicopter transfers into the future.</b>	<p>Currently, there is no helipad at Cowra Hospital due to topography and density of residential and commercial properties surrounding the site.</p> <p>Cowra Health Service will continue to utilise Cowra Airport for helicopter and fixed wing patient transfers.</p>
<b>MATERNITY BEDS</b>	
<b>There were a number of questions raised regarding maternity services and facilities that will be provided into the future.</b>	<p>The NSW Government recently announced an additional \$40 million for the Cowra Hospital Redevelopment. This additional funding will now enable the provision of two dedicated birthing suites with both containing a birthing bath and private ensuite.</p> <p>To better support newborn babies, there will also be a new fit, for purpose neonatal nursery.</p>

For more information about the Cowra Hospital Redevelopment visit

[www.cowrahospitalredevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cowrahospitalredevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au) | Email [HI-Cowra@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:HI-Cowra@health.nsw.gov.au) | Phone (02) 9978 5432

## HERE'S WHAT YOU TOLD US

## RESPONSE

### SIZE OF THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

**There was consistent feedback that the existing Emergency Department (ED) is too small and is always busy.**

The Cowra Hospital Redevelopment master plan provides expansion zones to meet the future needs of the community. These expansion zones can now be delivered with the recent announcement of additional funding.

The new ED will be a significantly larger space at more than double the existing ED to align with contemporary health standards. The new ED will include a triage assessment room, a safe assessment room, a resuscitation treatment bay, three acute treatment bays and a treatment room which will be able to be used for patient isolation as required.

### NUMBER OF CONSULT ROOMS

**Are there enough clinic spaces for local staff and visiting clinicians?**

As part of the Clinical Services Plan (CSP), detailed analysis was undertaken to determine the extent of consult-clinic rooms required. This analysis has been used to determine the number, type and function of the spaces.

### FUTURE EXPANSION

**Is there enough space for future expansion?**

The Cowra Hospital Redevelopment master plan provides expansion zones to meet the future needs of the community. These expansion zones can now be delivered.

**As Cowra grows and we have an ageing population how will the hospital grow?**

### ACCESS AND PARKING

**Ina Drive is too narrow for two-way traffic in and out of the hospital.**

Revised pedestrian and vehicular access and car parking will be considered by the project team in the next stage of design. Feedback will be sought from staff and the community as part of the concept design consultation.

**There needs to be a lot of on-grade dedicated parking for staff, patients and visitors.**

A detailed traffic and parking assessment is underway to inform vehicular and pedestrian access as well as the number and location of staff, visitor and patient drop-off and longer stay parking spaces.

**Designated parking spaces close to the entrance are needed for patients who may have trouble walking and are visiting physiotherapy and chemotherapy.**

### CONSTRUCTION

**When construction starts, will the contractors take up all available on street parking?**

A Construction Traffic Management Plan will form part of the contractor's tender submission and must demonstrate how the contractor and workers will manage worker parking and construction traffic to minimise disruption for the community and existing hospital services during construction. The project team will also work with Cowra Council to ensure that construction traffic is managed appropriately.

### OUTDOOR SPACES

**Will there be outdoor spaces?**

The project team is prioritising access to outdoor spaces to support healing and wellbeing. As planning and design progresses, more detail will be provided, including where outdoor spaces will be located, landscaping design, and access through the site for staff, patients and their families.

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## HERE'S WHAT YOU TOLD US

## RESPONSE

### BUILDING DESIGN

**Will the building design respond to environmental considerations?**

The building will be designed to meet the requirements of the Building Code of Australia, Greenstar and NSW Policy for environmental sustainability. This includes ensuring appropriate initiatives are incorporated and the building responds to environmental considerations in its orientation and façade treatment.

### FOOD KIOSK OR COFFEE CART

**Will there be food and beverage options or a coffee cart for staff, patients and visitors?**

Provision for a future coffee cart will be included as part of the design. Consideration will also be given to vending machines to ensure there are beverage and snack options available on a 24/7 basis.

### MEMORIAL ROSE GARDEN

**What is happening to the Memorial Rose Garden? This is a special place and we need to preserve the roses and the plaques.**

Following further community consultation, it is proposed that the roses will be temporarily relocated off site for management by the community during the construction of the new hospital.

Once construction is complete, the roses will be incorporated into the landscaping of the new hospital in a way that reflects the significance of the roses.

Family members will also have the option to replant memorial roses in a garden of their own.

To coincide with the cooler months the plan for the temporary relocation of the Memorial Rose Garden will be determined with the Memorial Rose Garden Committee in the coming months.

### RETAINING THE EXISTING VIEWS

**The views from the hospital are beautiful, can we make sure we have access to views in the wards**

The project team is currently assessing how the views can be maximised, including for patients in the ward and those in day treatment spaces such as renal dialysis and chemotherapy services.

**Can we ensure that patients utilising treatment chairs (chemotherapy and renal patients) have access to natural light and views?**

### STAFF ACCOMMODATION

**What is the plan for staff accommodation?**

The provision of staff accommodation is a priority for Western NSW Local Health District to support the recruitment and retention of clinicians, staff and students. Options currently being explored include utilising residential accommodation near the hospital to ensure staff have a 'home like environment'.

# What are the next steps for the project?

Following master planning consultation, the project team has collated all feedback from staff and community. This important feedback will be used to inform the planning and design process as the project transitions into the next design phase known as concept design.

Consultation for the concept design is expected to commence in late 2022.

Engagement will continue with the local community, local traditional knowledge holders and staff to ensure the hospital design is a safe and welcoming environment for all who visit.



## Cowra Hospital Redevelopment project timeline

Master plan consultation	Concept design consultation	Schematic design consultation	Construction to start	Construction complete	Expected opening of new hospital
March–May 2022	August 2022	Late 2022	2023	2024	2025

## For more information

For more information on the project, please visit the Cowra Hospital Redevelopment website [cowrahospitalredevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au](http://cowrahospitalredevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au). The website includes news updates, Frequently Asked Questions and information about the project. The website will continue to be updated as planning progresses. Alternately please contact the project team via phone or email.

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