



Media Release

To: Media

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Subject: **Consultants Identified for Wairau Hospital Redevelopment**

The Nelson Marlborough District Health Board has identified the preferred Architect/Health Planner, Quantity Surveyor and Project Manager consultants for the Wairau Hospital Site Redevelopment. These consultants were selected after a comprehensive selection and shortlisting process and are expected to be on board in the next two weeks.

The redevelopment comes as a result of aging facilities in the Blenheim hospital that no longer efficiently serve the Marlborough community or support present day models of care. The Ministry of Health approved the expenditure of \$36.6 million for the redevelopment of the Wairau Hospital Site in July 2006.

The redevelopment of facilities includes co-located wards, for surgical and medical patients, radiology facilities, Emergency Department, laboratory, and new kitchen facilities. Design of the new facilities will commence immediately with a view to starting construction late 2007 and project completion targeted for September 2009.

The preferred Architect/Health Planner is Maunsell/AECOM. Wairau Hospital Redevelopment Project Director Martin Ridgway said, "Maunsell have had extensive health experience across New Zealand that includes projects in Wairapa, Northland, South Canterbury, Whangarei and Tauranga.

"They bring with them a highly qualified and experienced team with an awareness of the unique opportunities available when redeveloping a provincial hospital. Maunsell recognise that Wairau Hospital needs to be redeveloped to ensure a modern and sustainable health service is created."

RDT Pacific LTD has been selected as the preferred consultant organisation for the project management services for the site redevelopment. Mr Ridgway said this company would provide locally based personnel with a comprehensive understanding of NMDHB requirements and the health service required in the Marlborough community. RDT Pacific has worked on many large hospital projects including the Nelson Hospital, Murchison Hospital and Wellington Hospital.

The consultant Quantity Surveyor preferred organisation is Maltby Partners. Mr Ridgway said Maltbys provided input into the Wairau Business Case that helped to secure funding for the redevelopment and therefore had an understanding of Wairau Hospital and its health care and budget requirements. This group's Health Sector experience is comprehensive and includes the redevelopment of Kaitaia and Masterton Hospital.

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