



Media Release

To: Media
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Date: 16 March 2007
Subject: **Concept Master Plan Approved**

Nelson Marlborough District Health Board are pleased to advise that the Concept Master Plan for the Redevelopment of the Wairau Hospital and Health Centre Marlborough has been approved by the site development steering group.

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 Concept Master Plan has been developed by the Architect and Health Planner following consultation with key stakeholders including members of the Board, clinicians, staff, Primary Health Care Providers and other members of the Marlborough Community. The Concept Master Plan offers a 'helicopter' view of the key departments and services and how they fit together to provide the best patient flows and co-locations on the campus.

A special meeting of the Project Steering Group was held this week and recommended sign off on the Concept Master Plan.

Chief Operating Officer Keith Rusholme said, "This development is on track to deliver services that meet contemporary standards of care and are in line with the strategic direction of the DHB. The development will give Marlborough people and DHB staff a facility they can be proud of."

During the next stage; the Concept Design Phase, staff and user groups will establish how space in each department would be used, and detailed patient flows.

Project Director, Martin Ridgway said, "This is a significant milestone achievement for the project, and is a culmination of three months intensive work."

The redevelopment is expected to be completed by September 2009.

ENDS