



Media Release

To: Media

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Date: 9 October 2007

Subject: **Feedback from Preliminary Design Workshop with Ministry of Health and Peer Reviewer**

After submitting the Preliminary Design report to the Ministry of Health on the 31st of August, the DHB has received an interim report from the Ministry of Health and Peer Reviewer, Aurora Projects.

A workshop was held on the Friday 5th October with representatives from the Steering Group, Internal Coordination Group, Project Team, key project consultants, Ministry of Health and Peer Reviewer (Aurora) to consider the suggestions made in the report.

Mainly, these suggestions were in the areas of:

- Future flexibility of the redeveloped site and buildings
- Way finding and travel distances
- Expansion zones for areas such as Outpatients, Emergency and AAU/HDU

After a very positive discussion, the group agreed to explore three alternative design developments, and the Project Team and User Groups will now develop these options with regard to time, quality, budget and benefits and report back to the Steering Group. The expected timescale of exploring these options is yet to be determined but it is anticipated that it will be up to several weeks.

The group agreed that re-visiting the footprint of the design at this stage was important in ensuring that the final design we commit to is the one that best meets the needs of the Marlborough community for many years into the future.

It is important to note that the meeting acknowledged the great deal of time and effort that the User Groups have put into the detailed planning and that this work remains totally valid and the exploration of any alternative overall design will build on the excellent work that has been done to date. In fact, this next phase of exploration of the best option could not have taken place until we had completed this and submitted the Preliminary Design to the Ministry.

ENDS