

Wairau Hospital and Health Centre Marlborough Site Redevelopment Newsletter

This edition of Ex-Site looks at the appointment of the Architects/Health Planners and their Design Process, the Maternity User Group and feedback from the Maori Health workshop for Site Redevelopment

Architects start designing the new Campus

Newly appointed Architects and Health Planners, Maunsells have energetically begun the design process for the Wairau Site Redevelopment. The lead architects are Wally Fitness – (Architect/Health Planner) responsible for the concept and initial design phases and Carl Grey – (Architect) responsible for the later and more detailed design phases.

Wally Fitness tells Ex-Site “We are delighted to be involved in the redevelopment of Wairau Hospital site. Having been involved in a number of hospital redevelopments throughout New Zealand it is another opportunity for us to take hospital design another step forward and develop innovative leading edge solutions unique to Wairau that facilitates the delivery of health services in the most optimum and appropriate manner in modern facilities.

“The five stage design process starts at a very high level ‘helicopter’ view of the campus deciding on size and location of departments and circulation routes. Each subsequent stage takes a step down in level of detail until for example the final stage when we are deciding where power points and data outlets are to be positioned”.

Throughout the design process, there are five phases that are undertaken prior



Carl Grey and Wally Fitness - Architect/Health Planners

to construction to ensure that the project runs smoothly and all opportunities are explored. These phases are:

1. Concept Design
2. Preliminary Design
3. Developed Design
4. Detailed Design
5. Construction Design

Briefing and masterp planning was completed in February. It established site circulation and entry points, co-location of departments, department size and the circulation patterns (separation of staff and public). Following this, the Site Redevelopment Project is working on the Concept Design Phase. This phase involves the application of a design ‘idea’. The concept design phase will be used to define or verify the brief and

may often involve the testing of different approaches/options. Throughout this phase, these ideas or concepts are created with open interaction by the project team and User Group Representatives.

Areas that are defined include: block layouts, flows – patients, staff, supplies, dirty, clean; spatial relationships/co-locations, update schedules of accommodation, identifies the size of the building, perspectives, infrastructure engineering

Wally and Carl plan to be on site regularly and will commence meeting with User Groups in March to discuss functional needs and assist with any challenges.

Design Phase 2: Concept Design

As the initial Master Planning is finalised, the Architects/Health Planners and the Project Team will then move into the Concept Design Phase. This phase begins by putting the blocks together and designing the rooms inside the building.

This will be a very intense time for user groups and they will be required to meet weekly and with the Architects on a fortnightly

basis.

Some of the areas covered in this phase include:

- Develop room sizes
- Review Schedules of Accommodation
- Start developing Room Data Sheets (RDS)
- Outline specification of materials and finishes

What is a Schedule of Accomodation?

The Schedule of Accommodation is a consolidated brief of accommodation facilities and provisions taking into account the operational, spatial and locational requirements of the user

Maternity User Group



Sue McNabb and Graham Cross - two members of the Maternity User Group

The Maternity User Group is a combined group of Maternity, Obstetrics and Gynaecology. There has been a large amount of input into the Model of Care by the Marlborough Midwives and the Obstetric/Gynaecological Specialists, Helen Crampton and Owen Jennings. Some of the issues that arose for this User Group include:

- Potential separation of Gynaecology from the

group/model of care

- Future of the location and admission of Neonatals
- Consulting spaces
- Number of Birthing Pools required
- The future of birth – cyclical tendencies towards intervention or no intervention over time.

The group have had two site visits. Gerry Lawson and Graham Cross have returned back from their visit to Timaru and the whole user group visited the Nelson Maternity ward to get some 'lessons learnt' from our own DHB.

Timaru gave Graham and Gerry some good ideas on the use of natural light in the department, birthing room space and noise reduction methods. However, the shared

staff/patient lounge was ineffective, along with access issues to enter the department (it is located on 1st floor).

Bronwen Pelvin has met with mothers from the community to review the model of care and ensure that it reflects the needs of the community

A Community Forum is soon to be held to update the Marlborough Community on the progress of the Site Redevelopment Project. The forum will be open to anyone with an interest or who has any feedback and recommendations for the project. Invites will be sent to community stakeholders to encourage attendance.

Maori Involvement

Following a Hui in February, the Maori Reference Group was established to assist the Site Redevelopment Project Team ensure cultural input is incorporated into the new facility.

The reference group is chaired by Harold Wereta and was set up to improve Maori involvement in the project and develop a strategy on how Maori can advise the project team on issues that are important to their culture.

It was agreed that the He Oranga Maori Best Practice Guidelines should be adopted by the user groups as a reference tool. The He Taura Ti eke would also be used to assist the user group members in auditing their developments.

A presentation was given to user group representatives on 16th April and highlighted important principles that should be adopted including the relevant reference material that can be used throughout the project.

The Maori Reference group has been finalised and meet regularly as an efficient mechanism for engaging Maori staff and would allow for an opportunity to ensure that Maori culture is being represented.

The Maori Reference Group reports to the Steering Group, similar to the Clinical Reference Group.