

Ministry of Health approve Revised Master Plan

The Ministry of Health has approved the revised master plan for the redevelopment of Wairau Hospital.

NMDHB Chief Operating Officer and Wairau Redevelopment project sponsor Keith Rusholme says the project will now proceed to a more detailed preliminary design based on the revised master plan.

"We are delighted with the Ministry's approval of the revised plan," said Mr Rusholme.

"It's a credit to the project team and all those staff members involved with incorporating suggestions from the Ministry into a revised master plan. We now look forward to moving to the next stage of the project," he said.

The Board of NMDHB endorsed the revised master plan in December, noting that it will require a longer timeframe and some changes to the cost structure of the project.

The new Master Plan (shown below) has developed the new build inpatient and allied health departments to the west of the existing emergency, surgical outpatient department and main entrance.

The building work will commence in July this year and is expected to be completed in November 2010

To view a more detailed plan, contact Emily Radnor on 03 5209859 or 6859 or visit the web site www.nmdhb.govt.nz/wairau



Outpatient Patient Focus Groups

One of the most important guiding principles for the redevelopment project is to develop a facility and service that is patient focused and improves the patient experience.

To help us do this, patient focus groups have been held in February to ask community members to tell us their 'story' and experience in using the Wairau Hospital health system. Initially, the project team will look into the Outpatient service, focusing on patient flows, processes and how things might be done smarter.

Further work will be undertaken around analysing the feedback into the models of care and design of the facility and taking it to user groups for discussion.

Do you know what an AAU is?

That the new Wairau Hospital will have what's called an Acute Assessment Unit (AAU).

An Acute Assessment Unit, or Acute Admissions Unit, is a short-stay department in a hospital which is co-located with Emergency Department. The AAU acts as a gateway between a patient's General Practitioner, the Emergency Department and the wards of the hospital. The AAU helps the Emergency Department produce a healthy turnaround for patients, helping with the four-hour waiting rule. An AAU will be made up of several bays.

From the Emergency Department, patients can be moved to AAU where they will undergo further tests and stabilisation before they are transferred to the relevant ward or sent home. A patient's stay in the unit is limited, usually no more than 24 hours.

The patient flows and criteria have not been completely finalised for the Wairau AAU. The user groups will be working on this over the next few months.

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Temporary homes for Departments

Some staff have enquired about when and where their departments will be located whilst building commences.

Some temporary locations are already known, however, until the design phases are complete, there will not be a clear 'migration and decanting' program. It is expected that the preliminary design phases will be complete by the end of June and the project team and Project Managers will be able to develop a clear plan for the transition and temporary housing of departments that may be affected.

Building a 'Greener' Hospital

As many people may be aware, there is a general trend towards businesses and organisations becoming more environmentally responsible.

Wairau hospital is no exception to this trend and through the redevelopment process hopes to adopt as many 'green' ideas and procedures as possible to ensure that Marlborough is proud to have an environmentally sustainable health facility.

Maternity User Group continues planning

The Maternity user group met with architects again this week to review their concept design. User group members include; Clinical Midwifery Leader, registered midwives, union delegate, Independent Midwives, Professional Midwifery advisor, Obstetrician & Gynaecologists and Specialist infection control nurse.

The Maternity group has faced a number of challenges around the new footprint and have responded extraordinarily well.

Over the past 6 months the user group have used evidence based principles to build a case for a further inpatient bed. Subject to the over all cost of the project, this space will also be built and used as a flexi bed with the co-located inpatient

The use of insulation and thermal efficient materials will be used to minimise the amount of heating required in the facilities. The project team and Senior Leadership Team of the NMDHB are keen to reduce the energy requirements and opt for alternative methods of regulating heat gain such as double glazing, tinted glass, and louvers to reduce the need for cooling systems.

The environment has been an important

part of planning the new Wairau hospital since Master Planning in 2006 where the orientation of buildings etc were discussed to ensure that the heat from the sun was optimised during the winter months as much as possible.

As part of a district wide approach to the environment, other environmentally friendly activities at a more grass roots level will be adopted and implemented over the next few years.



Maternity User Group members discuss the plans: Shona Wills, Jane Brock, Gerry Lawson and Graham Cross

departments when the bed is not required by the Maternity unit.

The user group will now work with Architects in developing the design and reviewing the patient and staff flow through

the department. The Maternity unit will be built in the second stage of construction due to project staging and the need for some buildings to be demolished first.

Myth Buster: What is an FTE?

Full-time equivalent (FTE) is a way to measure staff hours. An FTE of 1.0 is 80 hour per fortnight or equivalent to a full-time worker, while an FTE of 0.5 signals that the worker is only half-time.

In terms of the redevelopment project, we use the term FTE when describing how many hours are required to undertake the work required in particular department for the new staffing model. Although some areas may require 3 FTE, this can be actually be made up to 5 staff - two of which work 0.5FTE, one at 0.2FTE, another at 0.8FTE and one 1FTE.

Glossary of Terms

In a project like this, with many components of facility, process and service redesign, much jargon, abbreviations and specific terminology is generated.

Some of these include: Decanting, Process Mapping, AAU, a Model of Care, an FTE, Capacity planning, Australasian Health Facility Guidelines etc. All of these terms, whilst sounding a bit like 'management speak', are very important parts of the redevelopment project and have a part in developing either the design or the way we are planning on working differently in the future.

To help staff and community understand this jargon, a 'glossary of terms' has been developed to break through the barrier of words. These are available on the web site www.nmdhb.govt.nz/wairau and on the intranet. Hard copies are also available if required.

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Investigations into alternative locations

Work is currently being undertaken by the Project to explore options for the location of the future combined outpatient department.

This includes reviewing the options for either a refurbishment or new build for the Churchill Trust.

No decisions have been made and the feasibility (including cost) of an alternative location will be evaluated prior to any proposed changes made to the current master plan.