

## Project Update

# Wentworth Health Service Redevelopment

February 2025

Front façade of the new health service



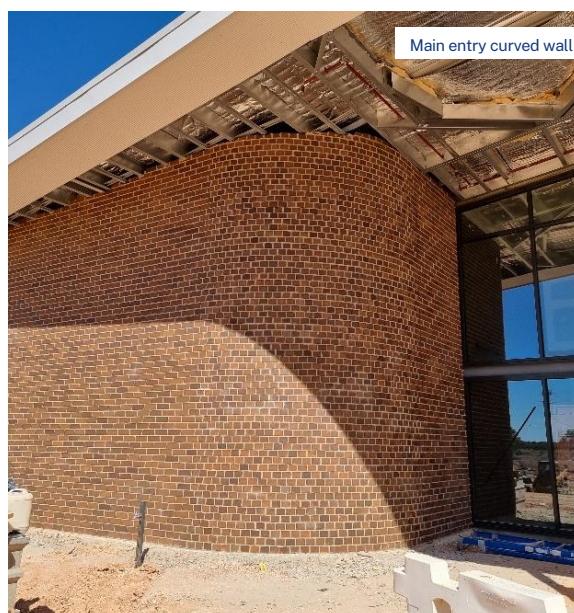
## New hospital coming to life

Construction is powering through for the Wentworth Health Service Redevelopment despite higher-than-average temperatures over the last few weeks.

Inside, the setting and painting of internal wall linings, installation of joinery, vinyl flooring and ceiling grids and bulkheads is progressing, and mechanical, electrical and fire services installation is also continuing. Window and door frames have been installed, and glazing is almost complete.

Outside, external cladding is almost complete, the bricks are getting a final clean and civil works are underway. Early work on the construction on the new car park and entrance road has also commenced.

The project team is keen to share a pictorial update of construction works to date which show how far external and internal works have come and just how great Wentworth's new hospital is looking.



Exterior of palliative care room corner



Family/Dining Room



Inpatient Room Hallway



Reception



Inpatient Unit room and ensuite





## Planning transition from old to new

While the physical construction of the new Wentworth Health Service continues, a lot of work is taking place behind-the-scenes to ensure that everything will be ready to go from an operational and clinical perspective when the new facility opens later this year.

Far West Local Health District and Wentworth Health Service staff are now planning for the transition of the building completion and handover, with regular operational commissioning workshops underway led by the Redevelopment Change Manager Lachlan Lavery.

“This is an important and exciting part of the project and demonstrates how close we are getting to completion,” Lachlan said.

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*“It’s essential we have a well-planned strategy in place to make sure the move from the old hospital to the new one goes as smoothly as possible, and that everything is in place and working”.*

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“Staff training and orientation and scenario testing is a key part of this preparation and will be rolled out over the next few months,” he said.

## Sustainability: Decarbonising infrastructure

*The Wentworth Health Service Redevelopment project will achieve full electrification with 90 kWh of solar panels and no fossil fuels used on site.*

In line with the Far West Local Health District’s (FWLHD) operational decarbonisation strategy, the campus will be 100% electrified with fossil fuels used by the hospital or ancillary buildings phased out completely.

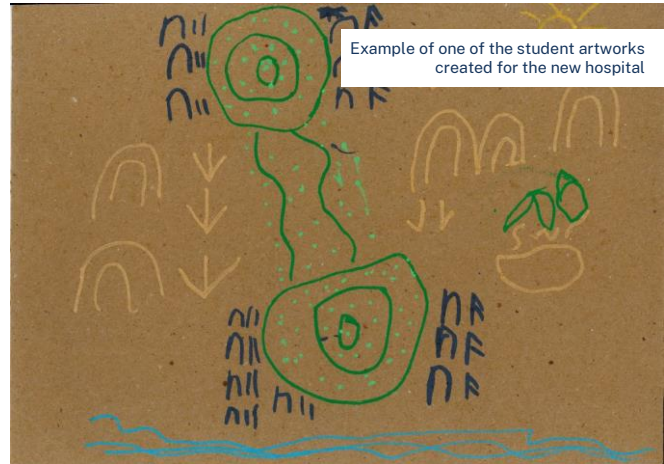
This commitment will be supported by the installation of 90 solar panels, enabling the generation of 146.4 MW, supplying approximately 40% percent of the hospital’s total energy requirement. Estimated carbon emissions saved from the solar panels is equivalent to the removal of 26 cars from the road each year.



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## Next steps

- Furniture, fittings and equipment are now being acquired ready to install in the coming months so the new hospital can be fitted out.
- Work on building and room signage is progressing and will reflect the strong Connecting with Country design features of the new hospital.
- Preparation for the installation of artwork is underway. This includes a larger framed weaving artwork in the foyer, 100 frameworks created by school students from eight local area schools and a heritage display reflecting the history of the Wentworth Hospital.
- Completion and operational commissioning workshops with staff are continuing.



“Construction is well on track for the new hospital to be finished and ready to open in mid-2025 as expected, and we are excited for this day to come,” said Amanda Bock, Executive Director, Rural & Regional, Health Infrastructure.

“Landscaping and demolition of the current hospital will take place in the second half of the year to bring the project to completion,” she said.

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“The Wentworth Health Service Redevelopment has been a unique and special project which has come to life in partnership with the Far West Local Health District, hospital staff and the local community, and its completion will signal a new era in health care for the people of Wentworth and surrounding communities”.

*Amanda Bock, Executive Director, Rural & Regional, Health Infrastructure*

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## Key Worker Accommodation announced for Wentworth

Wentworth is one of five communities in the Far West Local District set to benefit from new Key Worker Accommodation funding which will help attract, recruit and retain healthcare workers.

The recent announcement for healthcare worker accommodation will be provided under the NSW Government’s \$200.1 million investment into key worker accommodation announced in the 23/24 Budget, with \$5.1 million in health worker housing dedicated to Far Western NSW as part of the program.

The new funding will secure approximately 120 dwellings across regional NSW, which includes the building of new accommodation, refurbishment of existing living quarters and the purchase of suitable properties such as residential units. This is in addition to key worker accommodation arriving at the Wentworth Health Service campus in the next few months.

## Wanted: Photos of Wentworth Hospital and staff from the 1980s and 1990s

The local community is being asked to pull out their old photo albums and shoe boxes full of photos to see if they have any pics of the hospital and/or staff from the 1980’s and 1990’s, which the project team can scan and use for the new hospital’s heritage display.

A timeline depicting the hospital through the decades will be installed and while the team has been able to locate plenty of photos, pics from these two decades are missing.

If you have any you can share with us, please let us know by emailing [HI-Wentworth@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:HI-Wentworth@health.nsw.gov.au) or phoning (02) 8838 8889.



Artist's impression



Artist's impression

## About the redevelopment

The NSW Government has committed \$30 million to providing comprehensive, accessible, culturally welcoming and consumer friendly health care services to support the needs of the entire Wentworth community.

The new Wentworth Health Service includes:

- A 19-bed Inpatient Unit
- Primary Ambulatory Care (Community Health Services)
- A new Urgent Care Centre
- A palliative care suite, which includes an inpatient room with a private terrace and an adjacent family lounge with views to the river
- A dedicated space for families which opens to a central, shared courtyard
- A gym with access to an outdoor courtyard
- Outdoor spaces and landscaping, including a Yarning Circle and native plants

## What is an Urgent Care Centre?

The new Wentworth Health Service will feature an Urgent Care Centre which will be a dedicated space where people with non-life-threatening conditions can be seen and treated.

The Urgent Care Centre will be equipped to allow clinicians to carry out some diagnostic testing, including blood tests, limited x-rays, minor treatment procedures and monitoring of patients.

These services give people the treatment they need quickly for an illness or injury that is not an emergency. Minor treatment procedures include minor cuts, sprains or suspected fractures, sports injuries, minor infections, minor burns, rashes, insect or animal bites, cough, cold or flu, mild asthma attacks, earaches, fevers or chills.

All community members presenting to the Urgent Care Centre will be triaged and community members requiring higher level care will be transported to a higher-level care facility (like Mildura). If an Ambulance is called by a community member, the paramedics will decide what level care is needed and either take them to Wentworth or Mildura accordingly.

Please note the Urgent Care Centre is not a GP Clinic.



Health Infrastructure, Far West Local Health District and Wentworth Health Service acknowledges the Traditional Custodians on whose lands the redevelopment project stands and pays respect to the peoples of the Barkindji Nation, the Traditional Owners of this land.

### For more information

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