

New Bundaberg Hospital

PROJECT DELIVERY UPDATE | SEPTEMBER 2024



Artist impression

Laying the foundations for the new hospital

Construction works on the new Bundaberg Hospital site are forging ahead.

Bulk earthworks are currently underway. About 50,000 cubic metres of fill from a local quarry – the equivalent of about 20 Olympic swimming pools – will be delivered to site to bring the surface to a suitable level and height.

Demountable buildings have also arrived on site as part of the establishment of the project office compound for the team delivering the new hospital. The team has been working from temporary mobile

site offices these past few months, so is looking forward to moving into their new onsite headquarters.

Locals will notice more trucks and workers in the vicinity of the new hospital site while bulk earthworks are underway, which may result in occasional short travel delays.

With the new hospital site being about 600 metres from the closest public road, Eggmolesse Street, we'll be sure to keep sharing updates via newsletters and social media so you can see how your new hospital is taking shape.



Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service Board and Executive members visit new hospital site to see progress firsthand.



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› IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Each newsletter, we'll be shining a light on a key feature of your new hospital.



Emergency care to reach new heights at new hospital with rooftop helipad

A rooftop helipad on the new Bundaberg Hospital is set to play a vital role in speeding up medical responses and enabling the safe and efficient transport of critically unwell patients.

Mr Peter Heath, Executive Director, Capital Projects, Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service, said the new Bundaberg Hospital's larger helipad would enable quicker patient transfers and support the needs of the growing Wide Bay region.

"During emergencies, every minute counts, and having access to a rooftop helipad will ensure all patients requiring aeromedical transfer receive the necessary care without delay," Mr Heath said.

"The rooftop helipad will have direct access to the Emergency Department, Operating Suite, Intensive Care Unit and Medical Imaging department via dedicated elevators.

"These elevators, known as 'hot lifts', are much larger than a typical hospital lift, sized to accommodate the complex needs of critically unwell patients, including the multiple staff performing critical care.

"We engaged with local LifeFlight personnel several years ago when we were making our case for the new hospital, who were strong advocates of a rooftop helipad.

"I'm pleased our new hospital has been designed to include this important key feature."

Dr Chris McMullen, Clinical Lead, LifeFlight said the inclusion of a purpose-built rooftop helipad at the new hospital was welcomed by LifeFlight crews.

"For safety reasons, we're currently unable to land our heavier AW139 aircrafts at the hospital helipad on Bourbong Street," Dr McMullen said.

"Once the new hospital is built, our crews will be able to transfer and retrieve directly from the rooftop, providing better safety outcomes for patients, medical staff and our crews.

"It will also provide patients with greater privacy, free up paramedics to provide care to other patients and improve overall operations for our LifeFlight crews – it's a win-win for everyone."

First Nations careers in health and construction on display at Dorrie Day

Our Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service team recently had the pleasure of attending Dorrie Day in Bundaberg to talk to locals about health career opportunities.

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health team plays an essential role in connecting First Nation communities to public healthcare. They work with communities, families, and individuals of all ages.

The CPB Contractors team also attended talking to mob about construction opportunities related to the new Bundaberg Hospital project.

It was a great way to connect with locals about all of the First Nations-identified roles and upcoming opportunities in our community. Our thanks to Port Curtis Coral Coast Trust for hosting this important event.



Locals take advantage of pop-up information sessions

Hundreds of locals, including staff, patients, carers, visitors and nearby residents, have dropped by our pop-up information booths at the hospital, library and markets in recent weeks to learn more about their new Bundaberg Hospital.

Members of the project team were on hand to provide updates on design and early works activities and answer any questions the community had about the project.

The latest artist impressions were also on display giving locals a glimpse into what their new hospital may look like.

The team fielded lots of questions about the onsite works that are already underway, outdoor areas, room design, models of care, types of fittings and equipment, how the old site will be used once the new hospital is built, plus many more!

With a lot of the design work occurring behind the scenes with staff and consumers, we felt it important to have a visual presence so the broader community could see how their new hospital is taking shape. It also offered an opportunity to hear directly from individuals about what is important to them.

“ We are so excited that our new hospital is being built! ”

As a takeaway, the key message that came through loud and clear from the community was, ‘We are so excited that our new hospital is being built!’, and we absolutely agree.

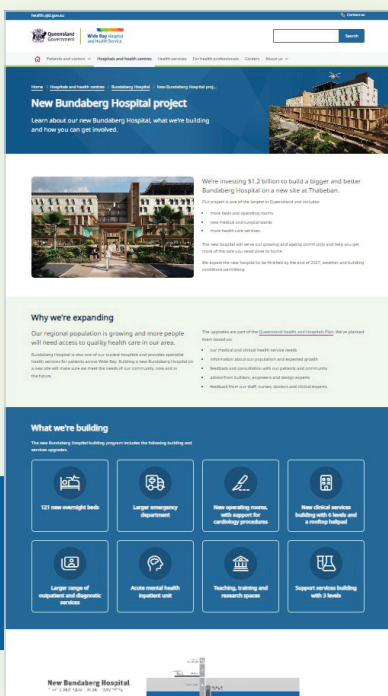


New Bundaberg Hospital project webpage receives a facelift

We’ve launched a new and improved website where you can find all the latest information about the project. You can read about:

- › why we’re expanding
- › what we’re building
- › where we’re building the new hospital
- › project timelines
- › plans for the old hospital
- › job opportunities – both in health and construction
- › the latest news and how you can get involved and stay up-to-date.

Scan this QR code to check out our new webpage.
widebay.health.qld.gov.au/new-bundaberg-hospital



MEET THE PROJECT TEAM

Each newsletter, we'll be introducing members of the project team.

This newsletter, we're featuring

Naomi Byrnes

Senior Health Planner, CPB Contractors

Naomi has spent the past year working closely with local clinical and non-clinical staff, local consumers, builders, architects and engineers, helping to guide inclusive collaborative discussions at hundreds of design workshops.

"With frontline experience in nursing and education and more than 12 years' experience on hospital projects, my role is to provide clinical input and advice on the design, and help translate some of the 'clinical language' for the builders, so that the new hospital is patient-centred and fit-for-purpose," Naomi said.

"The most rewarding part of my job is working with a broad range of stakeholders and teams.

"It's been great working on the design for the new Bundaberg Hospital – all of the WBHHS stakeholders have been so engaged and willing to work with the design team to achieve the best outcome.

“ What excites me most about the project is how much the new hospital will mean to the Wide Bay community. ”

"What excites me most about the project is how much the new hospital will mean to the Wide Bay community – the new and expanded services and increased beds in a brand-new facility.

"With construction underway, the next major milestone I'm looking forward to is seeing the main hospital building start to come out of the ground."



Part of a community group, organisation or school? Request a presentation next year!

Our project team is committed to keeping the local community updated.

In 2025, the team will launch a travelling roadshow, visiting local schools, community groups, businesses and other organisations to share updates on the project.

If you'd like to register your group/organisation to receive a presentation, please use the QR code to register your interest.



Scan this QR code to register your interest.

Get the kids involved

Looking for a school holiday activity with a healthy twist?



Scan to download this printable colouring-in page of your new hospital

We're eager to involve as many young people as possible throughout the delivery of this exciting legacy project – after all, the new hospital will serve our children, and our children's children and beyond.

For more information about the project and to sign up to get the latest news, announcements and project updates delivered straight to your inbox, visit:

widebay.health.qld.gov.au/new-bundaberg-hospital

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Wide Bay
Hospital and
Health Service

