

Why will the new hospital be in Frenchs Forest?

Government, local councils, community and local health service representatives looked at a range of factors to determine the best site for a new hospital. An economic appraisal, site evaluation, travel and risk assessment were completed. The Frenchs Forest site was confirmed as the best option for people in the Northern Beaches community.

Neither Manly nor Mona Vale Hospitals are in the right location to serve the complex health needs of 250,000 people.

Mona Vale Hospital will continue to play a significant role in health care provision. From 2018 it will provide services including rehabilitation and aged care, palliative care, community health and an urgent care centre. The new \$12 million Beachside Rehabilitation Unit and more than \$30 million allocated for a new Community Health Centre demonstrate the investment already underway to redesign Mona Vale Hospital.

Will there be more beds than currently provided on the Northern Beaches?

When the new hospital opens in 2018 there will be more beds - including more public beds - than there are currently on the Northern Beaches.

Importantly, the hospital operator will need to provide health services for all public patients who present to the hospital, without limiting the number of beds that can be used. The contract between the Government and the hospital operator ensures that these conditions will be adhered to.

The hospital operator must meet a range of performance requirements. This includes managing waiting lists for elective surgery and strict triage times in the Emergency Department, just as currently happens at Manly, Mona Vale and Royal North Shore Hospitals today.

Can people without private health insurance use the new hospital?

Absolutely, people without private health insurance can use the new hospital. There will be a long term contract with the private hospital operator. This means that the Government purchases services for all public patients, allowing the operator to provide services to patients in the same way as a public hospital would, regardless of whether or not you have private health insurance.

Public patients will be able to use the new hospital, including the Emergency Department, in the same way that they currently use Manly, Mona Vale or any other public hospital.

Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals currently treat both public and private patients within their existing facilities, with approximately 40 per cent of patients in either facility electing to use their private health insurance.

In an emergency will people with private health insurance be prioritised over those who don't have it?

No. This will not be the case. As in all hospitals that provide emergency care, every patient is prioritised according to their health needs and not according to whether they are a public or private patient.

What are the benefits in partnering with a private hospital operator?

Partnering with a private hospital operator will bring about some very real benefits for the Northern Beaches community.

Ultimately it's about creating a health system that works well for all patients, their carers and families for many years to come. Patients' needs will always come first.

Infrastructure, construction and maintenance costs for the new hospital will be shared with the private hospital operator, enabling the new hospital to be delivered faster and at a reduced cost to the taxpayer.

The contract with the hospital operator also provides for their continued investment in the facility over the long-term to ensure it remains at the contemporary standards of the day.

Staff will be working in a modern facility on a wider range of health services with the latest technology, making it an attractive place to work.

Most importantly, this approach provides greater choice for people, with high quality healthcare services for both public and private patients in one location on the Northern Beaches. Currently around 80 per cent of people on the Northern Beaches choose to have their elective surgery off the Northern Beaches in private facilities.

What is the contract period with the private hospital operator?

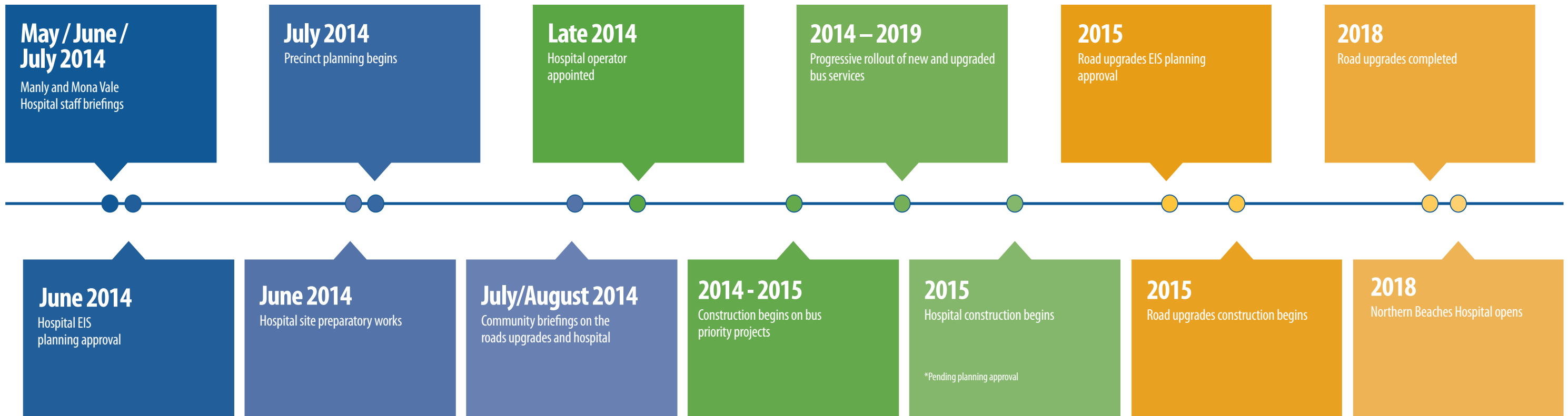
The term of the contract for public provision of healthcare services is 20 years. Once the facility is operational in 2018 the Government will make a contribution to the cost of the hospital. At the end of the contract period the public portion of the hospital can be handed back at no additional cost to enable public patients to continue to receive care as they do today.

The private operator then has a further 20 years to provide services to private patients, before the remaining part of the hospital can be handed back.

What will happen to Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals?

The Mona Vale Hospital site will continue to provide important health services such as rehabilitation and aged care, palliative care and community health, as well as an urgent care centre.

When the Northern Beaches Hospital opens in 2018 Manly Hospital will close. Community consultation is underway to enable Government to determine the best use of the Manly Hospital site once the new Northern Beaches Hospital opens in 2018. Email manly@parliament.nsw.gov.au to share your views about the future use of the site.



Will Manly and Mona Vale staff be forced to work for the hospital operator and lose all of their entitlements?

No staff member will be forced to transfer to the hospital operator. Those staff who do transfer to the new hospital will be able to do so on their existing award terms and conditions. They will have their current leave entitlements honoured and they will also be in line for a transfer payment. Staff in defined benefits superannuation schemes will retain those benefits.

Permanent staff who do not wish to transfer will remain within NSW Health.

It's anticipated that with the new hospital, increased community health services and the redesign of Mona Vale Hospital, significantly more staff will be required overall than are currently employed at Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals.

How does this compare to the failed Port Macquarie deal?

There are a number of significant differences between the Northern Beaches Hospital contract and that used at Port Macquarie more than 20 years ago. Lessons have been learned, in particular around contract flexibility and transparency.

The Northern Beaches Hospital has in part been modelled on substantial Western Australian experience, which has seen a private operator successfully delivering public healthcare services for more than 15 years. In fact, Joondalup Hospital, run by a private hospital operator for both public and private patients, was completed ahead of schedule and under budget.

More locally, NSW currently has successful partnerships with the private and non-government sectors in providing health services for public patients. HammondCare provides palliative care and the Sydney Adventist Hospital provides oncology services on behalf of the Local Health District. This is not a new concept. As is the case with these partnerships, the hospital operator will be required to meet stringent national and state quality and safety healthcare standards.

What is the Government doing to upgrade transport on the Northern Beaches?

The NSW Government will deliver transport improvements for the area, as well as planning for future growth, through the Northern Beaches Transport Action Plan. \$633 million will be invested over the next five years to connect the new Northern Beaches Hospital to the community and to start delivering bus rapid transit for the wider Northern Beaches area. This will be supported by traffic and road improvements, commuter car parks, modern bus stops and more frequent public transport services.

This investment will establish a modern transport system for the Northern Beaches. The system will connect key centres including Mona Vale, Dee Why, Brookvale and Frenchs Forest with employment, services and retail precincts like Manly, Northern Beaches Hospital, Macquarie Park, Chatswood and Sydney's CBD.

What is being done to fix road congestion around the Northern Beaches Hospital?

The NSW Government will invest \$400 million in the road upgrades around the hospital with work scheduled for completion in time for the hospital opening. This upgrade will provide customers with a better travelling experience by car or bus, increase the capacity of the road network and improve access through the precinct.

Roads and Maritime Services is looking at improvements for Frenchs Forest Road, Warringah Road, Wakehurst Parkway and Forest Way. Road widening, underpasses, intersection upgrades, new pedestrian bridges, and bus priority lanes and are all options being considered to help reduce congestion and service the new hospital. Work to reduce the impact of flooding on Wakehurst Parkway is also being looked at in parallel with planning for the hospital road upgrades.

A concept design for stage one work including upgrades to Frenchs Forest Road and parts of Forest Way, Wakehurst Parkway and Warringah Road is on display in July and August 2014, as well as a strategic design for stage two. For more information contact the Roads and Maritime project team on 1300 367 459, email nbhroadwork@rms.nsw.gov.au or visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects and search for 'Northern Beaches Hospital'.

What bus routes will get people to the hospital?

\$125 million will be invested to get on with the job of delivering kerbside bus rapid transit on the Northern Beaches. Interchange facilities, bus bays and road upgrades will support a system providing 'turn up and go' services every 10 minutes between Mona Vale and the CBD.

As outlined in Sydney's Bus Future, the hospital precinct will be served by better cross-regional bus services running to a frequent timetable.

A new Manly to Chatswood via Dee Why and Frenchs Forest bus service will provide direct access to the hospital. An improved bus route from Belrose to the Sydney CBD via Eastern Valley Way will also service the hospital precinct at Forest Way.

Other local bus routes will be introduced or upgraded to provide better access to the Northern Beaches Hospital from surrounding neighbourhoods.

What has been done to address environmental concerns?

As part of the approval process, Office of Environment and Heritage have had extensive input into the Environmental Management Strategy to ensure that biodiversity issues on the site are appropriately managed.

This includes taking actions to permanently protect vegetation and wildlife using methods such as BioBanking and using an Ecologist to monitor work on site. For more information about environmental requirements, including BioBanking, visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Where can I get further information about the Northern Beaches Hospital?

Information is available through the project website – www.nbhsredev.health.nsw.gov.au - and includes factsheets and leaflets. The project team will continue visiting groups to provide face to face presentations.

To request a presentation to your group, email northernbeaches.enquiries@hinfra.health.nsw.gov.au or call **9978 5410**.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

The facts about the Northern Beaches Hospital

The healthcare needs of the Northern Beaches community have changed significantly since Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals first opened decades ago. The current range of health services provided on the Northern Beaches need to be redesigned to support the changing needs of the local community. Major investment is required.

A new hospital for the Northern Beaches community will provide more complex health services at contemporary standards, with modern infrastructure that supports innovation, teaching, research and changes to clinical models well into the future.

Local people will have excellent healthcare on their doorstep; with the Northern Beaches Hospital, Mona Vale Hospital and \$100 million invested in three new community health centres in Mona Vale, Seaforth and Brookvale.

What are the benefits of a new hospital?

When the doors open in 2018, the new Northern Beaches Hospital will be a Level 5 hospital, able to provide a range of complex health services and treatments.

For the first time, the Northern Beaches community will be able to access the majority of their healthcare needs without having to leave the Northern Beaches.

In addition to more complex health services, this hospital will provide more public beds and more operating theatres than are currently available in total at Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals.

Services at the Northern Beaches Hospital for all patients will include:

- Emergency Medicine
- Intensive Care
- Surgery
- Medicine
- Anaesthetics

- Maternity and Special Care Nursery

- Paediatrics

- Geriatric Medicine

- Inpatient Mental Health

- Renal Dialysis

- Chemotherapy

- Radiology

- Pathology

- Pharmacy

- Teaching, Training, Education and Research.

Planning for the precinct around the hospital by Warringah Council began in July 2014 to ensure that the local area is in the best possible position to realise the associated benefits of a new hospital. Add this to job opportunities that the hospital will create and significant investment in the roads network and it's good news for local people.

Why build a new hospital?

The Local Health District identified the need for one Level 5 hospital to enable more complex healthcare to be provided for the Northern Beaches.

This would replace Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals which currently provide a mix of Level 3 and 4 services and treatments.