



Busselton Health Campus Project Update

October 2011

Project Definition Plan Endorsement

The Project Definition Plan (PDP) that confirms the scope, objectives and plan for implementing the development of the new Busselton Health Campus has now been endorsed by the Minister for Health and the Treasurer.

This major milestone clears the way for planning and design to progress and confirms that the project is on target to commence construction in mid 2012 with a completion date in mid 2014.



WA Country Health Service – South West Regional Director Grace Ley sees endorsement of the PDP as an important milestone for the project. “This puts us in a position where

we can move on and get down to the real work of designing and building the new health campus and then working towards a successful transition of services,” Mrs Ley said.

Design Team Selection

In another major development, the selection process for the architect led design team has been completed. Hassell, a highly respected international firm of architects, and their consortium of experienced sub-consultants have been selected to design the new health campus.

The field competing to be the design team for the new Busselton Health Campus was impressive and highly competitive. The evaluation panel made up of representatives from WA Country Health Service, the

Office of Strategic Projects, Building Management and Works and The Office of the Government Architect put a high level of emphasis on each team’s capacity to conduct effective consultation with expert user groups and to incorporate this information in cutting edge health facility design.

The design team has commenced testing the concept design and will then commence an intensive period of consultation to develop the schematic design. This will allow the new health campus to operate

effectively while providing a design solution that meets the aspirations of the community.

“This really is an exciting site for a health campus from an architect’s perspective” advised Grace Ley. “The design team will be working with the naturally healing environment of the site and incorporating an environmentally sustainable design that is energy efficient. The project is working towards being certified to Four Star Green Star rating.”

Design Program

Expert user groups have worked through recent weeks to develop the room data sheets for every room of the new Busselton Health Campus.

A room data sheet describes the activity of the room or space, the size, the finishes and special requirements, the types of furniture, fittings, equipment and associated services that are required.

“Our expert user groups have demonstrated their commitment to this project through Service Planning workshops in 2010 and involvement in the functional brief workshops held earlier this year and will again later this month through the very detailed room data sheet workshops. Each phase of the project requires a different mix of users and develops staff understanding of the opportunities an integrated health campus brings. This is a very exciting and challenging time and I thank staff in advance for their flexibility and

assistance as we make the new Busselton Health Campus a reality,” advised Grace Ley.

Expert user groups will meet again through late 2011 and into 2012 to develop the schematic design with the architect led design team.

“This is an opportunity that for most people comes once in a life time,” advised Grace Ley. “I have been approached a number of times by staff expressing their enthusiasm for the project and appreciate the high level of staff involvement.”

New Operations Manager



Jeremy Higgins

Jeremy Higgins has recently relocated to the South West and has commenced as the Operations Manager for Busselton and Coastal Hospitals.

Jeremy is excited to be leading the health service operations through the Hospital Development Project. Jeremy is an experienced registered nurse and health service manager and has had a variety of roles in WA Country Health Service in the last seven years across three regions as well as a short secondment to the Area Office. These positions include clinical management, operational management, and health service and workforce reform.

“The position of Operations Manager is responsible for leadership, development and operational management of Busselton and Coastal Hospitals in partnership with other health

providers and agencies. My role as Operations Manager is to work closely with staff and a range of other stakeholders as well as the Project Working Group to ensure that the transition to providing health services at the new health campus is as safe and effective as possible,” advised Jeremy.

This is the time for staff to have input into the development of the building and models of care. The new development will provide opportunities for change in how we work with each other to deliver services, as well as integration across the campus. This will put Busselton Health Campus at the forefront of country health services in terms of building design and patient centred models of care.

Environmental Applications

What is being proposed?

In June, environmental approval applications were submitted to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPC).



As can be seen from the picture above, the proposed redevelopment area contains the most degraded habitat on the site, including the current buildings and car parks. The area shaded in purple is proposed as a conservation and rehabilitation area.

What is the status of the environmental applications?

The EPA has made the decision not to assess on the basis that application had also been made to DEC.

DEC has made a preliminary assessment of the application and asked for a western ringtail possum management plan to be developed before the assessment is finalised.

DSEWPC has decided that the redevelopment is a “controlled action” and has requested additional information. This information is being provided to and will be advertised for public comment before the application is assessed.

How we will look after the possums?

The applications outline how the environment will be managed to ensure the wellbeing of the western ringtail possum and environment in general. The full range of mitigations required will not be known until DEC and DSEWPC have determined the outcome of the applications.

However, at least 73% of the existing tree canopy and the best quality habitat on the site will remain after the redevelopment. This habitat will be protected as a conservation zone. Walk trails through the conservation zone will be provided and vehicular access will be restricted to that necessary for site management.

While the best quality habitat on the site will be retained, it should be noted that even this is in a relatively degraded condition. Therefore at least 470 peppermint trees plus new understorey vegetation will be planted in the conservation zone. These will be irrigated, managed and monitored for at least two years after construction of the new health campus. In addition, weed and pest control will be put in place to help improve the overall environment.

The colony of western ringtail possums that inhabit the site will also be monitored throughout the period of the project and for a minimum of two years post construction.

Where trees can be retained in the redevelopment area they will be. In addition, landscaping will use plant species that will provide habitat plus alternative foraging and food

sources for the western ringtail possums.

Through these measures the environment on the site will be improved and made more sustainable.



What's in it for the community?

The redevelopment area allows for flexibility and adaptability of the health campus into the future and will accommodate changing models of care and future expansion while retaining and improving the best habitat on the site.

Rehabilitation of the natural environment and the inclusion of local flora in the landscape design will enhance the well recognised healing qualities of the site.

Who will be rehabilitating the habitat on the site?

A request for tender has been advertised by Building Management and Works for a revegetation consultant. The revegetation consultant will be responsible for recommending appropriate understorey species, the size, type and distribution of peppermint trees to be planted, rehabilitation options for the conservation zone and the management practices to be adopted.

It is anticipated that the revegetation consultant will be appointed prior to the commencement of schematic design.

Summary of Services to be Provided

When complete, the Busselton Health Campus will be a modern one-stop health care hub for the community of Busselton and surrounding towns. Detailed planning has not been completed yet, but the hospital will include:

- 64 overnight beds (54 medical/surgical, 6 observation and 4 palliative care beds)
- 15 Emergency Department bays

- 6 renal dialysis chairs
- 14 day surgery beds
- 2 operating theatres
- 1 procedure room
- 2 birthing suites
- enhanced medical imaging services
- enhanced pathology services.

The in-patient beds will allow the hospital to provide acute medical, sub-acute and surgical care.

The campus will also include a new community health centre, an expanded specialist outpatient service and a mental health clinic.

This mix of services will allow the development of integrated models of care that meet the needs of the community and fit with the mix of services available across the region.

Project timeline

Early 2011	User groups formed	✓
Early 2011	Community Reference Group formed	✓
Mid 2011	Completion of blue print for services	✓
Mid 2011	Functional brief	✓
Mid 2011	Concept master plan	✓
Mid 2011	Project Definition Plan	✓
Mid 2011	Submission of environmental approvals	✓
Mid 2011	Design team (request for proposal)	✓
Mid-late 2011	Cost planner (request for proposal)	✓
Mid-late 2011	Rehabilitation consultant (request for proposal)	✓
Mid-late 2011	Final master plan	
Mid-late 2011	Detailed design work commences	
2012	Awarding of construction tenders	
2012	Construction commences	
2014	Construction completed	
2014	Busselton Health Campus opens	

For more information

For more information or to register your feedback about the development of the Busselton Health Campus please contact the WA Country Health Service – South West at busseltonhealthcampus@health.wa.gov.au or on (08) 9752 6311.