This month we unveiled our concept design for the new Acute Services Building but we’re still early in the planning phase.

“What we all want is the best possible outcome for patients, staff and students - that’s why we will be testing and retesting the concept designs,” said project leader Carla Edwards.

To facilitate this process, Project User Groups (PUGs) will recommence towards the end of the year and continue into 2016 to inform the next stage of planning, known as schematic design.

“For this stage to be successful, we really need staff to communicate very clearly about their service and future models of care,” Carla said.

“This is not a time for more of the same. We’re interested in how people see the future and are there opportunities for innovation? How do we incorporate new ways of working?

“It’s a time to question everything so we get the best possible result. We need a clear brief to help us design facilities that really fit the model of care and support the delivery of the most appropriate treatment.”

Carla said there would also be a focus on integrating health care delivery with research, training and education so staff should also be thinking about how they might deliver training into the future. Planning with students, consumers and community representatives will also be on the agenda.

Speak to your head of department, nursing unit manager or PUG representative about ways in which you can get involved in generating ideas during the planning process.

This week the project team turned the tables on our hospital volunteers and laid out tea and scones for them (for a change!).

The morning tea was a chance to talk about what’s happening with the project and how volunteers can get involved.

“Vollies are the heart of the hospital. They get around to every ward, talk to patients and staff and they really know what’s going on and how people feel about the changes,” said communications and engagement director Nicky Seaby.

“We see them having a valuable role as advocates for patients and carers and ambassadors for the project.

“We wanted to know what they are interested in, how they would like to be involved and what we can do to support that involvement.”

Discussion included the kinds of issues visitors raise with the volunteers and how we can improve hospital maps and wayfinding.

“We’ll be looking to work with the volunteers in other areas such as car parking and designing patient and visitor information,” Nicky said.
MEET THE TEAM:
TIM HOFFMAN AND HALINA NAGIELLO, THE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL AT WESTMEAD (CHW)

What are you currently working on?
We’re working on the masterplan for the CHW Campus and planning for the Westmead Precinct.

How are you involved with the Redevelopment Project?
We’re part of the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network planning team.

What do you think is most exciting about the project?
We see it as a once in a generation opportunity to create a health precinct that truly encompasses and integrates health care delivery, education and research across the population from birth to the very old.

What matters most to you moving forward with the redevelopment?
We want to keep our eye on the prize which is delivering facilities which are fit-for-purpose and reflect the needs of the current and next generation of children and young people who will be using the facilities on the precinct.

What do you feel is most important to your stakeholders?
That we can continue to provide the high standard of health care we currently do, that children and young people are appropriately catered for and that staff and patients have better access to the precinct.

How will The Children’s Hospital at Westmead be adapting to the precinct changes over the following months and years?
Essentially that we have a clear strategy for moving forward, continued communication and engagement of the hospital community.

It’s the 20th anniversary of the hospital’s move to Westmead this year. When it opened, it transformed people’s ideas about how art can be integrated into hospital design. It’s something we routinely do today to promote well-being and make facilities more welcoming, but in 1995, it was revolutionary. What’s your favourite hospital artwork and why?

We love Jonathan Delafield Cook’s rhino in the outpatients department because who doesn’t love a rhino?

MASTERS BUILDERS
Construction of a new simulation lab and support areas for the Master of Nursing (Graduate Entry) will begin on Monday 26 October 2015 in the clinical sciences corridor.

The new facilities will provide an education zone for the program which begins in February 2016.

Funded by The University of Sydney, the lab will include four inpatient beds in a simulated hospital environment. There are also support facilities including tutorial rooms adapted for skills teaching and some workstations for teaching staff.

When the sim zone is not being used by the nursing program, there are opportunities for the facilities to be used by Western Sydney Local Health District and The Children’s Hospital at Westmead, to support their professional development programs.

The project is a collaboration between the Westmead Precinct partners.

Your patience is appreciated as the building works take place over the next few months.

CHANGE CAREERS AND STUDY WITH US: NURSING OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Sydney Masters of Nursing (Graduate Entry) degree offers real-world benefits to those looking for a professional qualification or a career change.

It enables people who have already completed a degree to undertake this professional program and become eligible to apply for nursing registration in Australia.

For more information visit www.sydney.edu.au/nursing/study/
Important information about construction

At the Western Sydney Local Health District, we take our obligation to deal with our asbestos legacy issue very seriously. The Westmead Redevelopment is an opportunity to rectify and remediate some historical matters affecting the site, and mitigate potential future risks.

The commencement of any new works concerning hazardous materials will be sign posted and involve strict access controls.

We use industry best practice to ensure the safety of everyone on site. This includes the use of accredited and experienced asbestos consultants, management, contractors and hygienists.

We will provide clear separation between public and construction zones to eliminate asbestos risk. If you have any issues or questions please contact the project team on 1800 990 296.

Lots of Activity On Site this Week

Demolition commencing to run for over 6 weeks.
AW Edwards site compound
FDC site compound for short stay redevelopment.
Stowe Australia Compound
High voltage infrastructure upgrade works.

Works commence on Masters of Nursing

Lunch and rest area for workers in part of the old staff cafeteria - worker zone will be hoarded off.