Consumers Make A Difference

Do you know someone passionate about healthcare in Western Sydney? We want them to be part of the biggest health project in the history of NSW with the opportunity to shape future healthcare services for adults and children.

The Westmead Redevelopment is looking for new community members to join the Western Sydney Local Health District and The Children’s Hospital at Westmead by becoming ‘consumer representatives’.

Consumer representatives are health users who will be provided with free specialist training, attend regular meetings and provide ongoing advice into hospital projects like the Westmead Redevelopment. Each week will be different to the next.

Right now consumers are involved in the planning and design of our new 12 storey acute services building, which will link the two major hospitals at Westmead. Their input is carefully considered by planners and architects, doctors and nurses, administrators and executives. Consumers bring a different and crucial perspective to how we build and renovate our hospitals.

It’s easy to spot the impact of consumers in most new or refurbished hospitals around Australia, particularly in ‘carer zones’ and other gathering spaces. These zones or spaces are often colourful and welcoming or they may be quiet and give you some privacy. They are spaces to stop and reflect during stressful times. They can be indoors or outdoors, a quiet nook with comfy chairs or a shared kitchen for a late night cuppa. Some spaces are decorated by the artwork of patients, local artists or schools.

Consumers were involved in designing many spaces in the new Blacktown Hospital – from the light-filled entrance and eating spaces to a chemo treatment area with a kitchenette and balcony views. Pictured is a visitor lounge that converts into a bed from Blacktown’s dementia ward. The Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne has synthetic turfed outside zones with fun furniture and a meerkat zoo that delights sick kids.

We are looking for more consumers of all ages and from different cultural and language groups across western Sydney. They may have recently been a patient or they may be a carer right now. They might have a passion for improving the way diseases are prevented and treated in hospitals and communities. We also welcome community members who are active in, or retired from, the health sector. Come one, come all!

If you’d like to find out more about recommending a consumer representative you can email: WSLHD-WestmeadProject@health.nsw.gov.au or call us on 1800 990 296. We also have more information on our website at www.westmeadproject.health.nsw.gov.au/get-involved.
When is the last time you visited the Westmead Redevelopment website?
We’ve made some upgrades.

The project team have been hard at work over the last few months compiling all of the exciting stories and project information that flows through the offices week to week.

“The project website really is the best way to get a comprehensive overview of everything that’s currently happening in the Westmead Redevelopment,” communications specialist Nicole Miller said.

“All of our project updates, fact sheets and staff communications can be found categorised on the website. It’s useful for anyone wishing to stay up to date with project news who might have missed a project update, or wants to gain a better understanding about the various parts of the redevelopment and how they interrelate.”

“We’ve also given the project YouTube channel a once over. You’ll find all sorts of interesting video content relating to the project. Returning visitors will always see the most recent clip on the channel homepage.”

Be sure to keep an eye on the project website over the coming months as we continue to add new and exciting content. You can access the website via [http://www.westmeadproject.health.nsw.gov.au/](http://www.westmeadproject.health.nsw.gov.au/).

To visit our YouTube channel search ‘Westmead Project’. 

Important Information

- **CORRECTION:** In Westmead Update 71 there was an error in the story discussing planning progress and the work of the Healthcare for Older People Earlier (HOPE) PUG. We wrote that in the new central acute services building there will be a “purpose designed 20 bed unit for the care of older people.” This sentence should have read that there will be a 12 bed, not 20 bed, unit.

- **NEW OPERATING HOURS:** The staff shuttle bus now runs from 7.15am to 8.45am and 4.30pm to 6pm. These operating times will be regularly reviewed. From 6pm, staff should go the main entrance of the hospital for the after-hours shuttle bus. The after-hours shuttle bus runs from 6pm to midnight. The shuttle bus stops at several spots across the precinct including all Westmead Hospital staff car parks. This includes the temporary car park on Mons Road.

Works On Site

- Location of the new Fleet Services office.
- Changes to pedestrian route to enable contractors to complete site works beside ICPMR building. New route will go through ICPMR building and Delivery Docks as shown.
- Disruptions along Institute Road continuing. Traffic control in place. Please follow the instructions of traffic wardens.
- Car parking construction. Access to Oval is closed until the new car park is opened in August 2016.
- Infrastructure upgrades underway.
- Construction of the new helipad commencing soon.
- The old Fleet Services car park is now closed.
- Car parks closed for construction. Changed traffic conditions.