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URBIS

SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
Redevelopment

Gadigal Country

Prepared for

HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

31 October 2022

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I confirm this SIA contains all relevant information and complies with legal and ethical obligations of social impact practitioners, including those set out in the Social Impact Assessment Guidelines for State Significant Project, 2021, prepared by the Department of Planning and Environment.

I further confirm that none of the information contained in the SIA is false or misleading.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Urbis Pty Ltd (Urbis) was engaged by Health Infrastructure NSW to prepare a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) for Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH), Camperdown (the site).

This SIA has been prepared in accordance with the Department of Planning and Environment's (DPE) SIA Guideline and Technical Supplement and in response to the requirements of the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the proposal.

Assessing social impacts

A SIA is a specialist technical study which identifies and analyses the potential positive and negative social impacts associated with a proposal. Social impacts are the consequences that people experience when a new project brings change. Social impacts are those that impact on people's way of life, community, accessibility, decision making, culture, livelihoods, surroundings and health and wellbeing.

The potential impacts of the proposal are assessed by comparing the magnitude of impact (minimal to transformational) against the likelihood of the impact occurring (very unlikely to almost certain). This risk assessment methodology has been applied from the DPE SIA Guideline: Technical Supplement (2021) and is outlined below.

Table 1 Social impact significance matrix

Magnitude level						
		1	2	3	4	5
Likelihood level		Minimal	Minor	Moderate	Major	Transformational
A	Almost certain	Low	Medium	High	Very high	Very high
B	Likely	Low	Medium	High	High	Very high
C	Possible	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
D	Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
E	Very unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium

Source: DPE, 2021, SIA Guideline for State Significant Projects: Technical Supplement, p. 13

Potential social impacts

Based on the assessment in this report, the key social impacts of the proposal are considered to be:

- **Delivery of expanded hospital services:** The redevelopment of RPAH will help meet projected health needs of residents of the SLHD and maintain the hospital's role as a State-wide and national principal referral hospital. It is noted that the proposal may not provide all the projected infrastructure set out in the Clinical Services Plan to meet the health needs of the community to 2031. Notwithstanding this, the delivery of expanded health services at one of the major national referral hospitals will still have a very high positive social impact on the community.
- **Increased access to high quality open space:** The redevelopment will provide additional open space areas and improved landscape character for patients, their families, staff and visitors. The landscape design aims to enhance connection with Country and provide more usable and appealing spaces for use of patients, visitors and staff. As shown by the research, there are positive benefits to open space provided in hospitals including improved clinical health outcomes and reduced stress for staff. The increase in open space and landscaping is likely to have a positive impact on the patient, visitor and staff experience.

- **Noise and operational impacts of the temporary helipad landing site:** Noise impacts of the temporary helipad landing site are likely to have a negative impact on residents at 106-112 Church Street (Queen Mary Building) and the Naamuru Parent and Baby Unit. It is noted the operation of the helipad is critical and all other feasible alternative options were explored to find a location that would have the least impact on residential receivers. Implementing monitoring and a complaints process for residents to communicate any issues during the operation of the temporary HLS, noise impacts are likely to be managed. With the implementation of the proposed road network changes, operational impacts of the temporary HLS are likely to have a neutral impact on RPAH patients and staff.
- **Stress on people accessing the Campus:** Demand for car parking at RPAH is already high. Without additional staff car parking, and with an increasing workforce and initially similar staff travel behaviour, there is likely to be a short-term negative impact on staff and visitors. Difficulties in accessing parking can heighten feelings of frustration and stress and disrupt or delay people's daily activities. However, the implementation of the Green Travel Plan, which sets out short-term and long-term goals on shifting staff travel behaviour to choose more sustainable methods of transport is likely to have a neutral long-term impact.
- **Removal of heritage items:** The demolition of heritage buildings and heritage listed trees is likely to have a negative impact on the heritage significance of the site, which contributes to the overall character of the area and how people experience place. It is acknowledged that a rigorous design process was undertaken and options were explored for relocation, part relocation and/or retention of heritage items. These options were not considered viable for several reasons, such as that any new additions would disrespect the original setting of heritage buildings and clinical outcomes would not be able to met. With the implementation of the recommendations made in the Heritage Impact Assessment, and outlined above, the demolition of heritage items will have a low negative impact on Camperdown residents, City of Sydney and Inner West LGA residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff, USYD students and staff.

Recommendations are provided below to help further manage and improve the potential impacts arising from the proposal.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are provided to further manage the potential impacts from the proposal:

- As requested by MLALC, provide a smoking ceremony onsite prior to ground disturbing works
- Further enhance representation of Indigenous culture in the design of buildings and spaces through art and storytelling.
- Continued engagement with USYD on construction activities and timelines for proposed works of the SBA building, particularly alignment of noisy activities.
- Implementation of a detailed Construction, Noise and Vibration Management Plan and continued engagement with the community throughout the lifecycle of the RPAH redevelopment program.
- Monitor the noise and vibration impacts on nearby residents while the temporary HLS is in operation at this location. This should include implementing a complaints process for residents to raise any issues.
- Engage with the local Aboriginal community to discuss potential naming protocols for buildings and spaces within the redeveloped areas of the hospital.
- Implement wayfinding signage that is accessible for people with disabilities, impairments and for culturally and linguistically diverse populations.
- Continue working with USYD to enable better access between the hospital campus and University open space areas.
- In accordance with the landscape design statement, appoint a landscape maintenance contractor to prepare a proposed maintenance works program.
- Implementing a replantation strategy to mitigate the loss of mature trees with the aim to retain a similar aspect of the vegetated, green buffer.

- Continue to engage with Indigenous groups throughout the detailed design of landscaped areas to ensure appropriate planting species and design decisions are aligned with Connecting with Country principles.
- At the detailed design phase, provide end of trip facilities and additional bicycle parking in multiple locations across campus, or at a central easy to access location.
- Ongoing monitoring of car park activity.
- Implement management measures in the Heritage Impact Assessment including the:
 - Photographic archival recording of sites and buildings
 - Undertaking detailed architectural drawings of the buildings for record
 - Salvaging fabric and material where possible
 - Preparing and implementing a detailed Interpretation Strategy and Conservation Management Plan.

Overall impact assessment

Based on this assessment and the recommendations provided, the redevelopment of RPAH is likely to have a positive social impact on the community. It will provide a significant addition to the campus that will help meet the projected health needs in the SLHD and beyond.

1. INTRODUCTION

Urbis Pty Ltd (Urbis) was engaged by Health Infrastructure NSW to prepare a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) for Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH), Camperdown (the site).

1.1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

In March 2019, the NSW Government announced a significant \$750 million investment for the redevelopment and refurbishment of the RPA Hospital campus. The Project will include the development of clinical and non-clinical services infrastructure to expand, integrate, transform and optimise current capacity within the hospital to provide contemporary patient centred care, including expanded and enhanced facilities.

The last major redevelopment of RPA Hospital was undertaken from 1998 to 2004 projected to 2006 service needs. Since then, significant growth has been experienced in the volume and complexity of patients, requiring significant investment to address projected shortfalls in capacity and to update existing services to align with leading models of care.

The redevelopment of RPA Hospital has been the top priority for the Sydney Local Health District since 2017 through the Asset Strategic Planning process, to achieve NSW Health strategic direction to develop a future focused, adaptive, resilient and sustainable health system.

1.2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Alterations and additions to the RPA Hospital East Campus, comprising:

- Eastern wing: A new fifteen (15) storey building with clinical space for Inpatient Units (IPU's), Medical Imaging, Delivery, Neonatal and Women's Health Services, connecting to the existing hospital building and a rooftop helicopter landing site (HLS);
- Eastern extension: A three (3) storey extension to the east the existing clinical services building to accommodate new operating theatres and associated plant areas;
- Northern expansion: A two (2) storey vertical expansion over RPA Building 89 accommodating a new Intensive Care Unit and connected with the Eastern Wing;
- Internal refurbishment: Major internal refurbishment to existing services including Emergency Department and Imaging, circulation and support spaces;
- Enhanced Northern Entry/ Arrival including improved pedestrian access and public amenity;
- Demolition of affected buildings, structures and trees;
- Changes to internal road alignments and paving treatments; and
- Landscaping works, including tree removal, tree pruning, and compensatory tree planting including off-site on University of Sydney land.

Ancillary works to the RPA Hospital West Campus, comprising:

- Temporary helicopter landing site above existing multi storey carpark;
- Re-routing of existing services; and
- Associated tree removal along Grose Street.

1.3. REPORT PURPOSE AND SCOPE

A SIA is a specialist technical study which identifies and analyses the potential positive and negative social impacts associated with a proposal. It involves a detailed and independent study to scope potential social impacts, identify appropriate mitigation measures and provide recommendations aligned with professional standards and statutory obligations.

According to the Department of Planning and Environment's (DPE) SIA Guideline for State Significant Projects (2021), social impacts are the consequences that people experience when a new project brings change. For the purposes of an SIA, 'people' can be individuals, households, groups, communities,

businesses or organisations. These impacts can be considered in eight categories, as shown in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1 Social impact categories



Source: DPE, 2021, SIA Guideline for State Significant Projects

1.4. STRUCTURE OF THIS REPORT

This report has seven chapters as summarised below:

- **Chapter 1** (this chapter) introduces the proposal, purpose and scope of this report.
- **Chapter 2** outlines the legislative requirements and methodology applied to complete this SIA
- **Chapter 3** reviews the key findings and strategic directions from relevant state and local policies, as they relate to the proposal
- **Chapter 4** provides a social baseline of the study area including the site's locality, social and demographic characteristics, and consultation outcomes
- **Chapter 5** outlines a preliminary assessment of expected and perceived social impacts of the proposal
- **Chapter 6** assess the significant (moderate to very high impacts) of the proposal, including mitigation and management measures
- **Chapter 7** concludes the SIA by setting out a summary of the social impacts, recommendations, and overall impact assessment.

2. METHODOLOGY

This section outlines the methodology to prepare this assessment, with reference to the relevant legislative requirements.

2.1. LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES

This SIA has been prepared in response to the requirements of the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the proposal, as outlined in Table 2.

Table 2 SEARs item for SIA

21. Social Impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide a Social Impact Assessment prepared in accordance with the Social Impact Assessment Guidelines for State Significant Projects.

Source: SEARs issued on 29 August 2022

2.2. ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

The following methodology was undertaken to prepare this SIA. The methodology was informed by the guidance contained within the DPE SIA Guidelines for State Significant Projects (2021).

Table 3 SIA methodology

Background review	Impact scoping	Assessment and reporting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review of surrounding land uses and site visitReview of relevant state and local policies to understand potential implications of the proposalAnalysis of relevant data to understand the existing community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review of site plans and technical assessmentsConsultation with the City of Sydney Council, Sydney Local Health District and The University of Sydney to identify potential impactsReview of broader community engagement outcomesIdentification of impacted groupsInitial scoping of impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessment of significant impacts considering management measuresProvision of recommendations to enhance positive impacts, reduce negative impacts and monitor ongoing impacts.

2.3. APPROACH TO ASSESSING SOCIAL IMPACTS

The assessment of social impacts can be approached in several ways. The International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) highlights a risk assessment methodology, whereby the significance of potential impacts is assessed by comparing the consequence of an impact against the likelihood of the impact occurring. This approach is used in the Technical Supplement which supported DPE's SIA Guideline.

The DPE's risk assessment methodology is outlined below and has been applied in this SIA.

Table 4 Social impact significance matrix

		Magnitude level				
		1	2	3	4	5
Likelihood level		Minimal	Minor	Moderate	Major	Transformational
A	Almost certain	Low	Medium	High	Very high	Very high
B	Likely	Low	Medium	High	High	Very high
C	Possible	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
D	Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
E	Very unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium

Source: DPE, 2021, SIA Guideline for State Significant Projects: Technical Supplement, p. 13

Likelihood and magnitude level characteristics

The likelihood and magnitude levels are determined by subjective and objective components. It considers both individual experiences, community perceptions and technical evaluations.

The likelihood level assesses the probability of the impact occurring impact. The level of magnitude assesses the likely significance of the impact and considers several characteristics including:

- **Extent:** the volume of people expected to be affected and their relative location to the proposal
- **Duration:** the timeframe and frequency of potential impacts
- **Severity or scale:** the degree of change from the existing condition as a result of the impact
- **Intensity or importance:** the extent to which people or an environment can adapt to or mitigate the impact, including the value they attach to the matter and their capacity to cope and/or adapt to change
- **Level of concern/interest:** the level of interest or concern among the people affected.

Management measures

Social impacts are assessed before and after the implementation of management measures. Management measures are designed to reduce negative impacts and enhance positive impacts. These measures can take different forms and may be incorporated in the planning, construction, or operational stage of the proposal.

Section 5 of this report assess potential impacts prior to management measures as part of the impact scoping phase. Impacts which are assessed as moderate or higher are considered significant and included for further assessment in Section 6. The significant impacts are assessed with any planned mitigation measures to determine the residual impact level.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

3.1. PLANNING POLICY CONTEXT

A review of relevant state and local policies was undertaken to understand the strategic context of the proposed development and any potential impacts. This included the following documents:

- Greater Sydney Commission, Eastern City District Plan (2018)
- Sydney Local Health District, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Clinical Services Plan (RPAHCSP) (2019)
- City of Sydney, City Plan 2036: Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) (2020)
- City of Sydney, Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050: Community Strategic Plan (CSP) (2022)
- City of Sydney, A City for All: Towards a socially just and resilient Sydney (2019).

A summary of key findings relating to the potential social impacts of the proposal is provided below.

Table 5 Relevant social themes from policy review

Theme	Summary of findings
Supporting Sydney's emerging Innovation Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Innovation Corridor is globally competitive with specialised knowledge-intensive, research and innovation-based clusters, industries, and institutions. The corridor extends south of The Bays Precinct to Central Station and parts of Surry Hills, passing through the University of Sydney (USYD) and the RPAH, as noted in the LSPS. ▪ The LSPS notes that the vision is to create 25,000 new jobs in the Innovation Corridor. ▪ The Camperdown-Ultimo Health and Education Precinct is one of the largest and most comprehensive health and education precincts in Greater Sydney with potential to develop into a mature innovation district, as noted in the ECDP and LSPS. ▪ Supporting the growth of interdependencies and collaboration between health and education will promote the growth of innovation, start-ups and create industries, as discussed in the Eastern City District Plan.
Improving connections to and around the Camperdown-Ultimo Health and Education Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A City for All and the LSPS note that well-connected public and active transport networks support healthy lifestyles and social interactions. They also provide easy access to jobs and community and primary health services. ▪ The LSPS highlights that the innovation corridor relies on its ability to diversify and leverage off the proximity, relationships and culture of existing and emerging clusters and their ability to agglomerate. Improving walking, cycling and public transport connections to nearby complimentary institutions and economic centres provides opportunities to collaborate and attract a talented labour force.
Promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing stress on the healthcare system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The LSPS notes that Health NSW recognises that creating healthy built environments requires more than providing spaces for people to get active. It also needs interventions that support human health more holistically. ▪ The CSP recognises that the City of Sydney's health services are under pressure, particularly due to the impacts of COVID-19, and noted that some vulnerable communities may be isolated or experience increasing inequity.

3.2. HEALTH STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REVIEW

A review of relevant strategic health documents was undertaken to understand the strategic context of the proposed development and any potential impacts. This included the following documents:

- Sydney Local Health District, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Strategic Plan 2019-2023 (RPAHSP) (2019)
- Sydney Local Health District, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Clinical Services Plan (RPAHCSP) (2019).

A summary of key findings relating to the potential social impacts of the proposal is provided below.

Table 6 Relevant social themes from policy review

Theme	Summary of findings
Addressing the needs of a growing and ageing local population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhancing the RPAH's facilities is a strategic focus area in the RPAHSP, which aims for the redevelopment to address the needs of a growing, and ageing local and referral population, evolving technologies, and future models of care. ▪ The RPAHCSP notes that current RPAH infrastructure cannot absorb the levels of expected demand on the healthcare system and is no longer fit-for-purpose. By 2031, the NSW Ministry of Health projects there will be an increase in acute adult overnight bed days (37%), intensive care services (ICU) (41%), emergency department (ED) presentations (42%), and acute maternity admissions (14%), among other demand increases. ▪ The SLHD's aged population is predicted to increase by 86% and 107% respectively in the 70-84 and 85+ year age groups by 2031. The RPAHSP notes that ageing populations represent a significant driver of hospital activity and that hospitalisation rates among Australians aged 65+ are more than four times those of their younger counterparts.
Enhancing the full integration of education and research facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Research, innovation and education are deeply embedded in the role and function of RPAH, which relies heavily on numerous research partners such as USYD. ▪ The RPAHSP notes that the RPAH intends to fully integrate patient-centred research and education into the fabric of the hospital so that discovery and translation are seamless. Ensuring the RPAH continues to expand and upgrade its educational facilities and optimising technology assisted learning will enhance the recruitment and retention of the healthcare workforce.

4. SOCIAL BASELINE

This section provides a social baseline of the study area including the site's locality, social context, demographic characteristics, engagement outcomes and areas of social influence.

4.1. SOCIAL LOCALITY

Local context

The Royal Prince Alfred (RPA) Hospital campus is located in Sydney's inner west suburb of Camperdown, within the City of Sydney Local Government Area. The campus is situated between the University of Sydney to the east and the residential area of Camperdown to the west. A north-south arterial road (Missenden Road) divides the campus into two distinct portions, known as the East and West Campuses. The northern boundary of the campus is defined by the Queen Elizabeth II Rehabilitation Centre and the southern extent of the campus is defined by Carillon Avenue.

The works are proposed to both the East and West Campuses, as well as some off-site works occurring within the University of Sydney.

The site comprises the following land titles:

East campus:

- Lot 1000 DP 1159799 (12 Missenden Road, Camperdown, 2050).

West campus:

- Lot 11 DP 809663 (114 Church Street, Camperdown, 2050); and
- Lot 101 DP 1179349 (68-81 Missenden Road, Camperdown 2050).

Off-site works are proposed on University of Sydney land, known as Lot 1 DP 1171804 (3 Parramatta Road, Camperdown, 2050) and Lot 1001 DP 1159799 (12A Missenden Road, Camperdown, 2050).

Figure 2 Site context

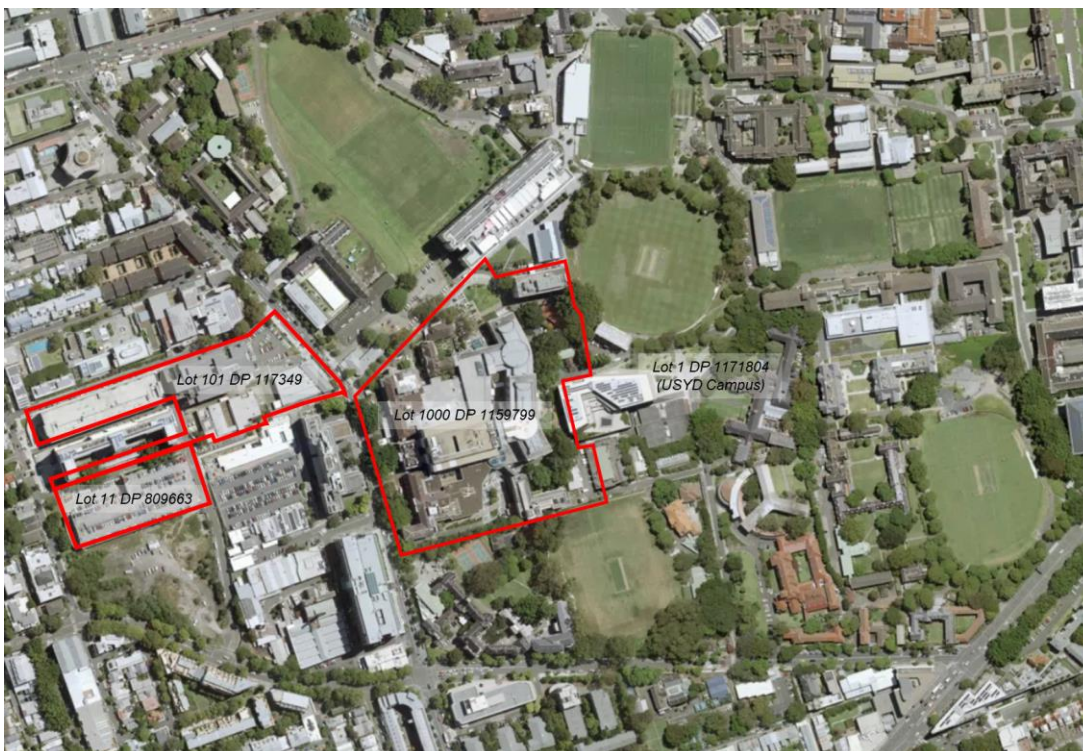


Figure 3 Site photos



Picture 1 View of the Main Hospital Entrance (Administration Building)



Picture 2 View of Kerry Packer Education Centre



Picture 3 View of RPA Chapel



Picture 4 View of Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology Building



Picture 5 View of St Andrews College from Missenden Road



Picture 6 View of mixed-use residential area at 130 Carillon Avenue

Source: Urbis

4.2. COMMUNITY PROFILE

A community profile identifies the demographic and social characteristics of a proposal's likely area of social influence. This is an important tool in understanding how a community currently lives and that community's potential capacity to adapt to changes arising from a proposal.

A community profile has been developed for Camperdown based on demographic data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2016 and 2021) Census of Population and Housing and DPE (2019) NSW population projections. It is noted that Camperdown suburb is partially located in both the City of Sydney and Inner West LGAs. The demographic characteristics of the City of Sydney and Greater Sydney have been used, where relevant, to provide a comparison.

Data from the 2021 Census will be released in a phased approach, with key population data being released in June 2022, location variable and employment data released in October 2022, and complex topics in 2023. Therefore, 2016 Census data for some more complex categories such as education, employment, and travelling to and from work remains the most recent.

In 2021, there were 9,381 people living in Camperdown, representing 4.4% of the residents of the City of Sydney LGA. Key characteristics of this community include:



Young workforce population

The median age of Camperdown residents (33) was lower than the City of Sydney (34) and Greater Sydney (37). The young workforce age group (aged 25-34) was the dominant group in Camperdown, making up 28% of the population.



Less culturally and linguistically diverse

Camperdown had less residents who were born overseas (41%) and spoke a language other than English at home (27%), compared to the City of Sydney (55% and 39 respectively). The top three countries of birth were England (5%), China (4%) and New Zealand (3%).



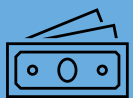
High educational attainment

Almost half of Camperdown residents had a bachelor's degree or above (47%), compared to City of Sydney (44%) and Greater Sydney (28%).



High proportion of professionals

A high portion of Camperdown residents worked as professionals (44%) and the top three industries of employment were higher education (7%), hospitals (6%), and cafes and restaurants (3%).



High levels of socio-economic advantage

In 2016, Camperdown was in the top 10% of state suburbs for relative advantage and disadvantage in Australia, according to SEIFA data.



Recent population decrease

Between 2016 and 2021 Camperdown's population decreased 9.3% from 10,341 residents in 2016 to 9,381 residents in 2021. This is likely attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic and decline of international students residing at or around USYD.

4.3. HEALTH PROFILE

To understand the health context for the project, HealthStats on hospitalisation data and RPAH health services have been analysed for the SLHD, with average statistics across all LHDs provided as a comparison.

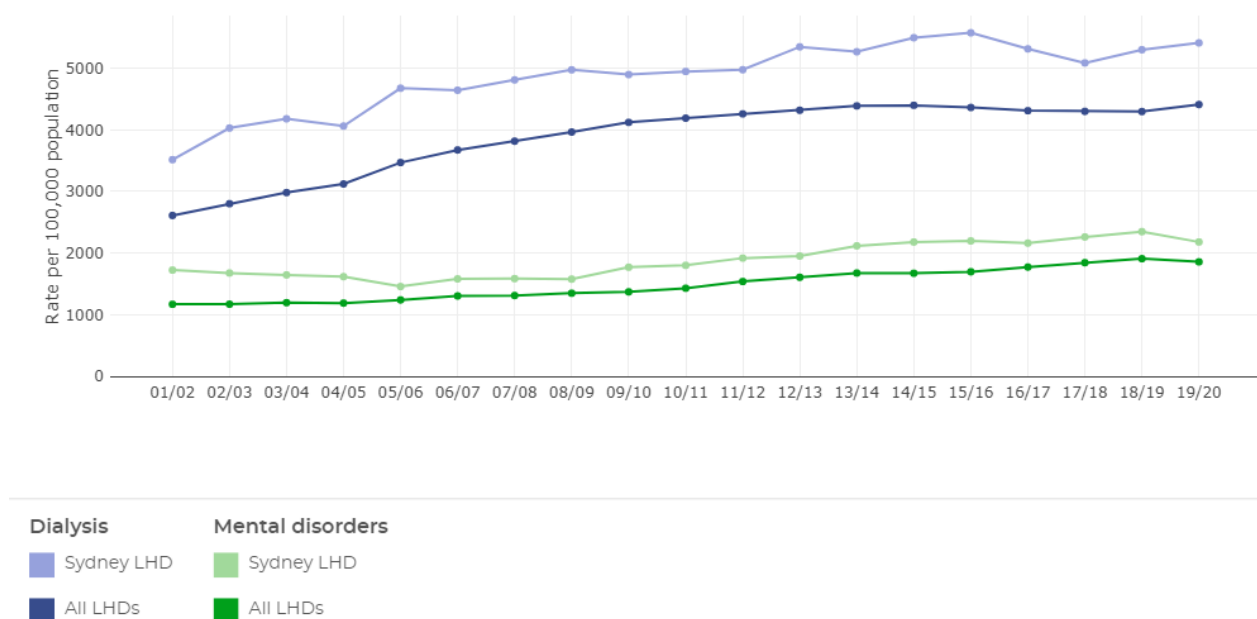
The following analysis uses data which is accurate as of 23 August 2022.

Causes of hospitalisation

HealthStats on hospitalisations have been analysed for the SLHD, with average hospitalisations across all LHDs provided as a comparison. Key findings include:

- Over the last 10 years (2011 – 2020) the rate of hospitalisations for all causes in NSW has increased by 21%. In the two years of 2019 and 2020, there were lower hospitalisations for most causes and injury types. This reduction was likely associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- During this 10-year period, the rate of hospitalisation for all causes in the SLHD has remained consistently lower than all LHDs.
- There are, however, some areas where the SLHD has experienced a higher rate of hospitalisation than the NSW average during all or part of this 10-year period. As shown Figure 4, these areas include dialysis and mental disorders.

Figure 4 Hospitalisations by select category of cause by the SLHD and all LHDs



Source: HealthStats NSW

Trends in relevant hospitalisations, emergency presentations and maternity

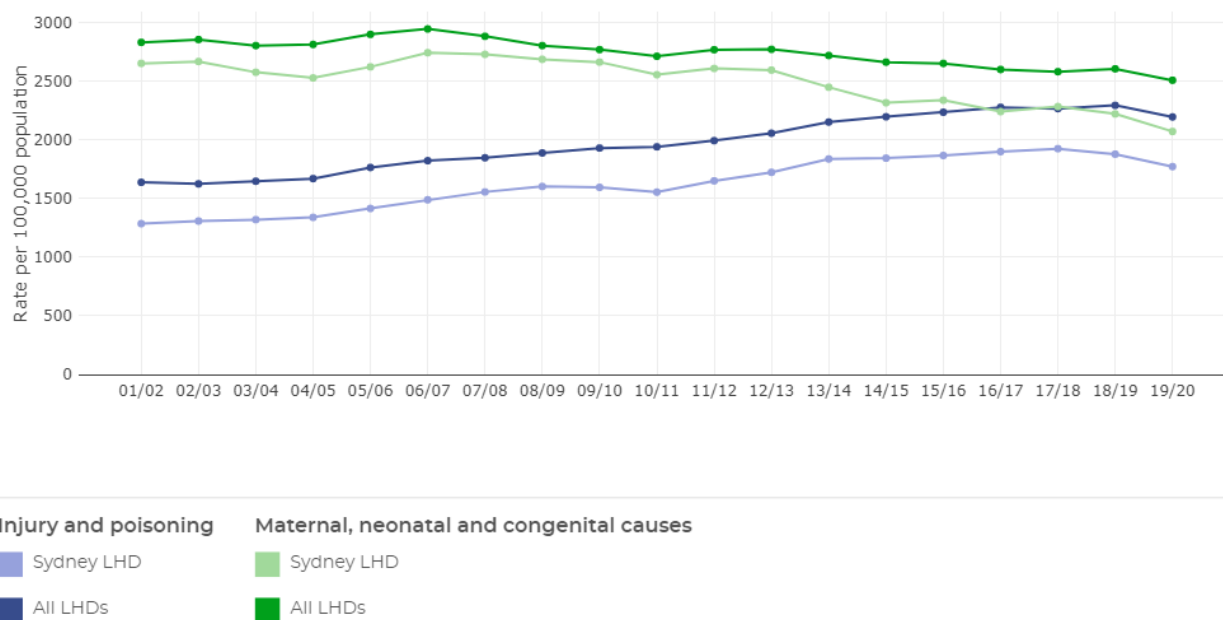
The SLHD Clinical Services Plan for RPAH focuses on providing additional capacity for emergency presentations, ICU patients, average overnight stays for patients, and maternity. It also aims to enhance the focus on treating and researching chronic conditions rather than preventable diseases.

HealthStats includes trends in the number of emergency presentations, hospitalisations due to maternity related health complications and the number of births per year. Key findings include:

- The number of hospitalisations relating to injury and poisoning (which often accounts for a high proportion of emergency presentations) and maternal, neonatal, and congenital causes reveals that SLHD generally has lower rates than all LHDs, as shown in Figure 5.

- Over a six year period (2015 – 2021), the rate of ED presentations slightly declined in the SLHD by 4%. In comparison, the rate of emergency presentations increased slightly across all LHDs by 8%.
- The rates of hospitalisations per 100,000 people for maternal, neonatal and congenital causes are consistently declining in both the SLHD and all LHDs. Similarly, over a four year period (2016 - 2020), there was a 6.2% decrease in the number of babies born in NSW and a 15% decline in the SLHD.

Figure 5 Hospitalisations by select category of cause by the SLHD and all LHDs



Source: HealthStats NSW

4.4. CRIME AND SAFETY

As part of the community profile, data from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research was also analysed to understand the crime and safety context around the site. This data is accurate as of 23 August 2022. Crime data from the BOSCAR indicates Camperdown generally has a lower rate of crime compared to the City of Sydney LGA and NSW averages. However, there are some crime types where Camperdown had higher rates of crime per 100,000 people than the NSW averages. These crime types were:

- Non-domestic assault: 561 (compared with 241 for NSW)
- Liquor offences: 297 (compared with 110 for NSW)
- Steal from dwelling: 379 (compared with 197 for NSW)
- Steal from person: 74 (compared with 21 for NSW).

The crime profile indicates that the suburb may be more susceptible to opportunistic and theft crimes due to its proximity to the Sydney CBD and high proportion of visitors to the RPAH and USYD.

4.5. RELEVANT ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES

As part of this SIA, online meetings were held with stakeholders in September 2022. Stakeholders included a social planning representative from City of Sydney, clinical services and health planning representatives from SLHD and project team and community engagement representatives from USYD.

The purpose of the meetings was to gain an understanding of the demographic and health characteristics of the community and any potential positive and negative social impacts associated with the proposal.

A summary of key insights from interviews is provided below.

Consultation with City of Sydney

- Council's representative commented that the proposed expansion of RPAH will likely have a positive impact and appropriately aligns with the health and education precinct (Tech Central) located nearby at Central Station.
- Council's representative noted that RPAH is located on the boundary between the City of Sydney and Inner West LGAs, and that the demographic characteristics of these two communities differs.
- It was noted by Council's representative that a health space, with a medical centre, will likely be located within Tech Central and therefore creating connections between RPAH and Tech Central will be important.
- It was also noted by Council's representative that Green Square HealthOne is located nearby and creating connections with this service is also important.
- Council's representative noted the need to provide more affordable housing near RPAH so that workers can live close to their place of work.
- Council's representative also noted that with an increasing in the workforce, accessible transport methods should be considered.
- Council's representative commented that vulnerable groups in the community should not be left behind and have equal access to health services.
- Council's representative noted the importance of creating more open space on site and connecting to other areas of green space, such as at USYD.
- Council suggested improving wayfinding strategies across the site, including connections with USYD.

Consultation with SLHD

- SLHD representatives noted that the redevelopment will help meet a huge need for expanded health care services.
- It was noted by SLHD representatives that the SLHD will experience the third highest population growth of all LHDs across NSW. It was also noted that the district is culturally and economically diverse.

- It was noted by SLHD representatives that the redevelopment will meet forecast demand until around 2026, however additional funding and investment will be needed to meet forecast demand to 2031.
- SLHD representatives commented on the importance of drawing on the entire health network and other models of community health care outside the hospital to help meet some of this forecast demand.
- SLHD representatives also noted that while there is generally a need for expanding most health services to meet the diverse needs of the district, there is a particular need in supporting the ageing population and mothers and babies.
- It was also noted by SLHD representatives that the inner-city location of RPAH means there is a diverse presentation of issues at the ED, including health concerns related to drug and alcohol use, homelessness and mental health.
- SLHD representatives noted that RPAH is a premier referral hospital for NSW, and for some health services also provides a national role. It is also the hospital providing the most complex surgical services in NSW, and therefore has a critically important role in providing new and innovative health services for people across the State.
- SLHD representatives noted the importance of the continuing relationship the hospital has with USYD.
- SLHD representatives also noted the need for more affordable housing near RPAH for current and future staff.
- It was also noted by SLHD representatives that it can be difficult to hire staff in the health sector to fill current roles, which will continue to be an issue with the redevelopment of RPAH.
- SLHD representatives noted that a shuttle bus currently runs throughout the campus and suggested reviewing the route to ensure the new buildings can be easily accessed.
- It was also commented on by SLHD representatives that the redevelopment will likely result in more traffic and demand for parking in an already busy area. It was noted that Missenden Road is particularly busy, with known incidents occurring with pedestrians and vehicles.
- SLHD representatives questioned how patients will be moved from the temporary helipad location, noting it will be located on the opposite side of Missenden Road from most hospital services.

Consultation with USYD

- USYD representatives noted that the surrounding community that may be impacted by the proposal includes USYD staff and students, both students who travel to campus and students who live in student housing nearby.
- It was suggested by USYD representatives that impacts on people living in student housing close to RPAH should particularly be considered. This includes residents in the Queen Mary Building, St Andrews College, St John's College and The Women's College.
- USYD representatives noted that there is a focus on continued development of the University's research and education partnership with RPAH. This includes the future development of the Sydney Biomedical Accelerator (SBA) building which will provide a research, teaching and engineering facility near the eastern wing redevelopment of RPAH. Also located in this area, at the boundary of RPAH and USyD campus is the existing research centre, Charles Perkins Centre.
- It was also noted by USYD representatives that the redevelopment of RPAH, particularly the Eastern Wing, and the SBA building will start to transform the intersection between the two campuses. It was noted that this could be an opportunity to enhance connections and improve wayfinding.
- USYD representatives further noted that staff, students and community members currently walk across the University campus from Redfern Station to access RPAH. It was noted that there could be an opportunity to establish a more formal direct route.
- There was some concern noted by USYD representatives that several State Heritage listed trees may be removed to accommodate the proposal.
- USYD representatives commented that consideration of cumulative construction impacts, such as noise and traffic, will be important.

- It was also noted by USYD representatives that overshadowing impacts of the Eastern Wing building should be considered. USYD representatives commented that some staff have concerns that the proposal will cause overshadowing on the current Susan Wakil Health Building.

Summary of community consultation undertaken to date

The engagement report prepared by Health Infrastructure NSW provides an overview of the consultation activities undertaken for the proposal. Community engagement activities were undertaken over 2022 and are ongoing at the time of writing this report. A range of engagement activities were undertaken to engage with various stakeholders including:

- A survey/online survey was conducted to engage the staff and public. These activities were undertaken from 8 March 2022 to 1 May 2022 and reached 357 people. Communications activities included social media posts, emails to RPAH staff, letterbox drop, posters/flyers and community handouts.
- Consultation was conducted to engage the public, staff, agencies and neighbours. These activities were undertaken from 18 August 2022 to 30 September 2022 and reached 36,000 people. Communications and engagement activities included letters, media release, emails to SLHD staff, social media posts, community pop up and meetings and door knocks.
- Helicopter landing site temporary relocation consultation was conducted to engage the public, staff, agencies and neighbours. These activities were undertaken from 26 September to 29 September and reached 1,500 people. Communications and engagement activities included individual briefings offered to nearby stakeholders, door knocks, letter box drops website updates, and emails to RPAH staff.

The key findings from these engagement activities that are relevant to understanding the social impacts of the proposal include:

- Stakeholders identified the desire for Indigenous elements to be incorporated into new buildings, such as language integrations and nature, art, historic photos, and stories that connect with Country. Acknowledgement of Indigenous communities as custodians over the land that the RPAH site is on is also being considered by the project in response to key heritage impacts.
- Community feedback supported the opportunity to improve wayfinding signage and inclusive participation, particularly for people with disabilities and community members from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Survey feedback identified an existing shortage of hospital staff, services, and facilities, demonstrating a need for greater food and beverage options, improved break rooms, childcare services, and end of trip facilities. Green spaces were also identified as particularly important post COVID, including private spaces for staff only.
- The leading concerns identified within the concept design consultation related to the impacts of dust, noise and vibrations, traffic, and removal of trees and plants. The importance of integrated biophilic design, integrated green spaces and natural design elements into redevelopment designs was also raised.
- The two comments provided about the temporary helipad relocation were queries around the likely schedule of helipad flights and the number of car parking spaces removed.

4.6. AREAS OF SOCIAL INFLUENCE

Considering the outcomes from the social baseline, the area of social influence includes the immediate, district and regional context. Within the areas of social influence, the following individuals and communities are likely to be impacted by the proposal:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ▪ Local Indigenous communities | ▪ RPAH patients, families/carers and staff |
| ▪ Camperdown residents | ▪ USYD staff and students |
| ▪ City of Sydney and Inner West LGA residents | ▪ Construction and health workers. |
| ▪ Sydney Local Health District residents | |

5. EXPECTED AND PERCEIVED IMPACTS

A proposal may cause a range of direct and indirect social impacts which can have a positive, negative or neutral impact on the existing community. A SIA should assess the expected and perceived impacts which are considered to have the most significant impacts on the community and identified stakeholder groups.

The following section outlines the impact scoping considerations which were used to inform the determination of significant social impacts. These impacts have been informed by the contextual information outlined in Sections 3 – 5 of this SIA and have been assessed against the SIA criteria described in Section 2.

5.1. NEUTRAL TO LOW IMPACTS

This section outlines the social impacts considered to have a neutral to low impact on the community. These are not considered to have a significant impact on the community and are not included for further assessment.

Table 7 Initial scoping of neutral to low impacts

Social impact category	Impact assessment summary
Culture	Potential harm to Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places
	Potentially impacted groups: Local Indigenous communities
	All developments, including redevelopments of existing buildings or structures, should consider impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage. An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) prepared by Biosis assessed the potential impacts of the proposal on Aboriginal objects, places and/or sites within or in proximity to the site.
	The assessment found that the land within the study area had been cleared and developed as a hospital in the late 1800s. The hospital has remained the primary land use on the site and the continued redevelopment of the study area has likely disturbed archaeological deposits. During the field investigation, no previously unrecorded Aboriginal cultural heritage sites or areas of archaeological sensitivity were identified. Therefore, due to the high levels of disturbance, the report has assessed there to be low potential for Indigenous sites to be present within the study area.
	For these reasons, the ACHA recommends that no further archaeological assessment be undertaken, but that consultation be continued with key Aboriginal stakeholders throughout the design of the redevelopment. If unanticipated Aboriginal objects, historic relics, or human remains are discovered, the ACHA recommends that work is ceased in the vicinity and the find should not be moved until assessed by a qualified archaeologist.
	Based on this assessment, the proposed is likely to have a neutral impact on Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places.
	Representation of local Indigenous culture
	Potentially impacted groups: Local Indigenous communities, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff
	The redevelopment of RPAH provides an opportunity to better represent local Indigenous culture. This includes the provision of design elements such as native landscaping, Indigenous artwork, history, and gathering spaces (i.e., yarning circles, spaces for smoking ceremonies).

	<p>Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) who were consulted with as part of the ACHA identified the study area to have a high level of cultural significance to the Aboriginal people who occupied the land where the site is now located. The RAPs recommended preparation of a cultural interpretation plan to set out ways native landscaping, Aboriginal art and historical storytelling could be integrated in the new buildings and spaces. It was also recommended by the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) that designated land should be put aside for cultural gardens and additional open space.</p> <p>As per MLALC's recommendation the existing Cultural Garden located at the northern arrival area will be retained with proposed improvements to incorporate Indigenous art, and additional native plantings. Native vegetation and trees are also proposed to be provided in other new or improved areas of open space.</p> <p>The representation of local Indigenous culture through the alignment of the design with recommendations from the RAPs and MLALC is likely to have a low positive impact on the local Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community, and future patients, families, carers and staff of the hospital.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>Additional recommendations to further enhance engagement with Aboriginal culture and heritage are provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As requested by MLALC, provide a smoking ceremony onsite prior to ground disturbing works ▪ Further enhance representation of Indigenous culture in the design of buildings and spaces through art and storytelling.
Way of life	<p>Noise impacts during operation and construction</p> <p>Potentially impacted groups: Camperdown residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff, USYD staff and students</p> <p>A Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment (NVIA) was prepared by Arup to assess the construction and operational noise generated by the proposal. The NVIA notes that at this stage of the proposal, neither the construction nor operational equipment has been determined. Therefore, to predict the noise generated during construction, assumptions have been made based on sources normally found on similar construction sites.</p> <p>The proposed construction hours are 7:00am – 6:00pm Monday to Friday and 7:00am to 7:00pm Saturday on the condition that high noise activities are avoided on Saturday.</p> <p>The assessment found that proposed construction works are predicted to result in exceedance of noise management levels at most surrounding land uses. Exceedances in noise are only expected to occur during high noise activities for short intervals during the demolition phases of work. In accordance with the NVIA, a detailed Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan should be prepared with detailed mitigation measures on managing noise and vibration impacts on nearby land uses.</p> <p>During operation, the primary sources of noise with the potential to impact sensitive noise receivers include building services (i.e., mechanical, electrical, and hydraulic plant and equipment) and vehicular movements on site. The operational noise generated by increased vehicular movements on site was assessed by Arup as having nil to minor impact. This is due to the high level of existing traffic on</p>

	<p>Missenden Road and the restrictions on vehicular activities occurring at the loading dock outside of the daytime period. It is unlikely that building services will exceed noise standards, however as noted in the NVIA, detailed acoustic assessment will be needed during the design development phase to manage building services noise.</p> <p>Based on the initial NVIA assessment, noise from the proposal is likely to have a short-term low negative impact on residents and community members in surrounding areas during construction and a neutral impact from vehicular movements on site during operation.</p>
	<p>Increased in traffic</p>
	<p>Potentially impacted groups: Camperdown residents, City of Sydney and Inner West LGA residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff, USYD staff and students</p>
	<p>RPAH is primarily serviced by a local road, Missenden Road. Parramatta Road is also a key state road connection to the site. A loop road, consisting of John Hopkins Drive to the north, Gloucester House Drive to the south and Lambie Dew Drive on the east, services the eastern campus and provide vehicle access to critical hospital functions.</p> <p>The Traffic and Accessibility Impact Assessment found that the key intersections supporting the site are performing at an acceptable level. The Parramatta Road/Missenden Road is the busiest intersection, nearly reaching capacity at the PM peak between 4 and 5pm. The assessment found the proposal will result in an increase in 209 vehicle movements in the AM peak period between 8 and 9am and 176 movements in the PM peak period between 4 and 5pm. This was found to be a negligible impact on the road network.</p> <p>Based on the above assessment, increase in traffic is likely to have a neutral impact on impacted groups in the community.</p>
Way of life Surroundings	<p>Cumulative construction impacts</p>
	<p>Potentially impacted groups: Camperdown residents, City of Sydney and Inner West LGA residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff</p>
	<p>People who are most likely to be impacted by construction activities are RPAH patients/carers and staff, students living in USYD colleges and student accommodation near RPAH, and USYD staff. People living in Camperdown, or in the City of Sydney and Inner West LGAs and who travel near RPAH, or work in the area, may also be impacted by multiple construction related impacts.</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders, as summarised in Section 4.5, raised the need to consider potential cumulative construction impacts of the RPAH redevelopment with the future construction of the SBA building at UYD to the south-east of RPAH. The SSDA for the SBA building has not been lodged at time of writing this report.</p> <p>As noted in the Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment, prepared by SCT Consulting, there is no other confirmed construction requiring coordination with the proposed redevelopment. It is also noted in the Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment that it is likely haulage routes and construction zones for the SBA building will be separate to those used for the redevelopment of RPAH. This may help alleviate cumulative traffic and congestion impacts associated with truck movements for both sites.</p> <p>It is likely that there will be cumulative construction impacts associated with the redevelopment of RPAH, and the future development of the SBA building. Adoption</p>

	<p>of the Construction Management Plan is likely to mitigate some construction related impacts. At this stage, without knowing the timeframes for the development of the SBA building, it appears likely that cumulative construction impacts will have a low negative impact on several impacted groups.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>To further address cumulative construction impacts it is recommended there be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continued engagement with USYD on construction activities and timelines for proposed works of the SBA building, particularly alignment of noisy activities. ▪ Implementation of a detailed Construction Management Plan and continued engagement with the community throughout the lifecycle of the RPAH redevelopment program.
Community	<p>Visual impact from USYD</p> <p>Potentially impacted groups: USYD staff and students, Camperdown residents</p> <p>A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) prepared by Architectus assessed the visual impact of the proposed works from surrounding public open space, private open space within USYD, prominent locations along Missenden/Parramatta Road and nearby heritage items.</p> <p>The assessment found that the most significantly impacted views will be from various locations at USYD including the University Oval 1, a pocket park along Fischer Road and from the pedestrian crossing at University Oval 2.</p> <p>From University Oval 1 the visual impact was found to be moderate as the proposal will be prominent. However, it was noted that the focus of the existing view of the oval and surrounding vegetation will be retained with the new built form forming part of this backdrop.</p> <p>From the pocket park and pedestrian crossing at University Oval 2, the visual impact was found to be moderate as the proposal will be prominent and will also have a high number of passing viewers. However, it was found that proposed will not obstruct elements of importance, including the vegetation and oval.</p> <p>It was found that the view impacts from the three locations will be mitigated by the retention of existing trees, and inclusion of new trees and landscaping. It was also acknowledged the projects has been subject to a design competition and design integrity panel where mitigation strategies were implemented. This includes scaling building heights down towards heritage items along Missenden Road, having a gently curved built form of the Eastern Wing to respond to the curve of the University Oval 1 and careful consideration of façade materiality.</p> <p>The proposed new fifteen storey building, and additional height to existing buildings will introduce additional bulk and scale to the RPAH site. Mitigation measures have been considered throughout the design process to reduce impacts where possible.</p> <p>Based on the findings of the VIA, it is likely that visual impacts from USYD will have a short-term negative impact, specifically on USYD staff and students and Camperdown residents who may use or walk past the ovals. It is likely that the community will adapt to the new visual change and have a neutral long term impact.</p>
Livelihoods	<p>Increased job opportunities during construction and operation</p> <p>Potentially impacted groups: Construction and health workers</p>

As discussed in Section 3.1, the LSPS notes the vision to create 25,000 new jobs in the Innovation Corridor.

The proposal will create additional jobs in the construction and operation of the hospital. During the operation phase this will include an increase in medical, nursing and midwifery, allied health and other employment (such as support staff, corporate services, hotel services and maintenance). It is anticipated that by 2031 there will be an additional 4,744 operation jobs at RPAH. Almost half of these jobs will likely be in nursing and midwifery roles (2,381).

The proposal will also create 1,400 direct jobs, with the potential for supporting thousands of indirect jobs over the life of the project.

The RPAH Clinical Services Plan notes there are workforce challenges in the health sector. This was also heard through stakeholder consultation (see Section 4.5). The SLHD has an existing Workforce Strategy Plan 2016-2020 which outlines approaches to matching future models of care with workforce skills and requirements. As noted in the Clinical Services Plan, a Workplace Plan will be prepared for the RPAH redevelopment to outline an approach to fulfilling new job opportunities.

The creation of increased jobs in the Innovation Corridor aligns with local and state strategic priorities and will contribute to the employment vision for the area.

The increased availability of short-term construction jobs and long term operational jobs as a result of the proposal is likely to have a low positive impact on people working in the construction industry and in healthcare and hospital support roles.

5.2. MODERATE TO HIGH IMPACTS

Table 8 outlines the social impacts which were identified in preliminary scoping as likely to be moderate to high. **These impacts are considered significant and are included for further assessment in Section 6 of this report.**

Table 8 Initial scoping of moderate to high impacts

Social impact category	Preliminary assessment (Refer to Section 6 for complete assessment)
Health & wellbeing	Delivery of expanded health services
	Potentially impacted groups: SLHD residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff
	RPAH was founded in 1882 with 146 in-patient beds and just over 1,000 patients admitted during its first year of operation. Since its foundation, RPAH has been a known and respected provider of healthcare. It is now one of Australia's premier referral hospitals and recognised nationally as a leader in providing innovation and excellent healthcare.
	The redevelopment of RPAH will increase the availability of public health services to residents in the SLHD as well as residents in NSW and Australia. It will deliver some of the future infrastructure needed to meet projected demand to 2031 and identified in the RPAH Clinical Services Plan.
	This impact has been included for further assessment in Section 7.
	Increase in open space and landscaping
Accessibility Way of life	Potentially impacted groups: RPAH patients, families/carers and staff
	RPAH is in a dense, urban environment with limited open space and landscaping available for use of patients, their families, staff and visitors. As noted in the Urban Design Report prepared by Bates Smart, RPAH was originally built as a hospital in a garden setting. Over the years, the need for expansion resulted in a loss of open space.
	The proposal will provide additional open space and improved landscape features on site. The landscape design for the proposal intends to create a series of places that feel welcoming, connect with Country, honour the heritage of the site, create easy wayfinding and promote healing.
	This impact has been included for further assessment in Section 7.
Accessibility Way of life	Noise and operational impacts of the temporary helipad landing site
	Potentially impacted groups: Camperdown residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff
	The RPAH plays an important role in providing emergency care to the local community, as well as providing support to other hospitals which may be unable to provide the same level of care or are over capacity.
	The current HLS will not be usable during construction of the redevelopment. A temporary HLS is proposed to service the hospital for emergency medical retrievals and patient transport services during construction. The proposed location is at the west campus on the roof of an existing multi-storey car park.
	This impact has been included for further assessment in Section 7.
	Stress on people accessing the Campus

	<p>Potentially impacted groups: Camperdown residents</p> <p>There are a total of 2,595 off-street parking spaces at RPAH across several car parks. These are all paid or restricted access facilities. The largest facilities are the RPAH staff car park with 996 spaces and the staff and visitor carpark with 1,027 spaces. The Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment undertook an occupancy survey across all car parks. This found the current occupancy is at 83%.</p> <p>No additional car parking facilities are proposed. A key focus of the proposal is to encourage sustainable methods of transport to work, and to maximise the use of existing parking infrastructure.</p> <p>This impact has been included for further assessment in Section 7.</p>
Community Culture	<p>Removal of heritage items</p> <p>Potentially impacted groups: Camperdown residents, City of Sydney and Inner West LGA residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff, USYD students and staff</p> <p>The site has many items of local and State heritage significance across the campus. Two of these heritage items are proposed for demolition: a state heritage item, Building 94 – Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology and a local heritage item, Building 95 – RPA Chapel. Several trees are also listed on the City of Sydney Register of Significant Trees, some of which are in the rear gardens.</p> <p>The proposal will result in the demolition of the Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology Building, the RPA Chapel and several trees located along Lambie Dew Drive in the rear gardens.</p> <p>This impact has been included for further assessment in Section 7.</p>

6. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

The following section provides a detailed assessment of the significant social impacts of the proposal, as identified in Table 8. The significant impacts are assessed with any planned mitigation measures to determine the residual impact level. The assessment process used to determine each impact level is described in Section 2.

6.1. DELIVERY OF EXPANDED HOSPITAL SERVICES

Description of impact
New and improved hospital services that will support the health of residents the SLHD, as well as people living across NSW and Australia.
Current environment
<p>RPAH was founded in 1882 with 146 in-patient beds and just over 1,000 patients admitted during its first year of operation. Since its foundation, RPAH has been a known and respected provider of healthcare. It is now one of Australia's premier referral hospitals and recognised nationally as a leader in providing innovation and excellent healthcare. It provides tertiary and quaternary referral and district acute services to the SLHD including the local population catchment and other metropolitan residents. It also provides services to patients in rural NSW, interstate and in some cases overseas patients (RPAH Strategic Plan 2019 – 2024).</p> <p>RPAH currently has over 900 in-patient beds, providing more than 84,000 admissions and discharges annually. It treats more than 78,000 people at the ED, supports the delivery over 5,1000 babies, provides almost 20,000 operations, receives more than 22,000 ambulances, and provides outpatient services to more than 560,000 people per year (ibid).</p> <p>As noted in Section 3.2, with its current capacity RPAH meet the expected demand on the healthcare system. By 2031, the NWS Ministry of Health projects demand increases in areas including acute adult overnight bed days, ICU, ED presentations and acute maternity admissions.</p> <p>The Bureau of Health Information provides quarterly performance results for EDs at a hospital and district level. Data shows that for the April to June 2022 period, RPAH had 22,081 attendances. This was higher than the same quarter the previous year. It was also the highest of the three hospitals in the SLHD and the third highest of all principal referral hospitals in the State.</p> <p>The continued development of RPAH across the decades has meant wayfinding across the campus can be difficulty, particularly at the eastern sections off John Hopkins Drive. Consultation with stakeholders, as identified in Section 5.5, noted the importance of improving wayfinding across the campus.</p>
Impact of the proposal
<p>The redevelopment of RPAH will increase the availability of public health services to residents in the SLHD as well as residents in NSW and Australia. It will deliver some of the future infrastructure needed to meet projected demand to 2031 and identified in the RPAH Clinical Services Plan.</p> <p>The redevelopment is built around five key projects, being the northern arrival precinct, Eastern Wing, eastern extension, central courtyard and Missenden Road forecourt. The new modern buildings and spaces will enhance patient, family and staff experience of internal spaces. Wayfinding will also be improved across campus.</p> <p>The northern arrival precinct will provide a two-storey vertical expansion over RPA Building 89 and accommodate a new Intensive Care Unit. It will also connect to the new eastern wing building. A new pedestrian-friendly public drop-off area will be provided, and a new plaza space provided to signify this area as a key arrival zone. The eastern wing will provide a new 15 storey building with spaces for IPUs, Medical Imaging, Delivery, Neonatal and Women's Health Services. It will also accommodate a new</p>

helicopter landing site. The eastern extension will increase operating theatre capacity and future proof a public bridge connection to the USYD Susan Wakil Building.

The central courtyard is the core project that aims to enhance wayfinding at the campus by providing clear visible pathways towards Missenden Road, the southern and northern entries to campus and the new eastern wing building. Lastly, the Missenden Road forecourt space will provide a new canopy mediating the public domain and access into the ED. I will provide four new ambulance bays, a new ambulance parking bay, new drop-off bays and a dedicated public entry and shared exit.

As noted in Section 4.5 it is anticipated that the redevelopment will service the health needs set out in the Clinical Services Plan to 2026, but not meet the full extent of infrastructure needs set out to meet the health needs of the population in 2031. Some services not included as part of this proposal include the need for an expanded mental health assessment unit, and additional drug health detoxification and rehabilitation beds.

Management measures	SIA recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design as part of a design excellence competition and integrity panel process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with the local Aboriginal community to discuss potential naming protocols for buildings and spaces within the redeveloped areas of the hospital. Implement wayfinding signage that is accessible for people with disabilities, impairments and for culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

Residual impact (considering management measures)

Likelihood: Almost certain	Magnitude: Major	Resultant impact: Very high
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The redevelopment of RPAH will help meet projected health needs of residents of the SLHD and maintain the hospital's role as a State-wide and national principal referral hospital. It is noted that the proposal may not provide all the projected infrastructure set out in the Clinical Services Plan to meet the health needs of the community to 2031. Notwithstanding this, the delivery of expanded health services at one of the major national referral hospitals will still have a very high positive social impact on the community.

6.2. INCREASED ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY OPEN SPACE

Description of impact

Improved quality of open space and landscaping, providing an improved user experience.

Current environment

RPAH is in a dense, urban environment with limited open space and landscaping available for use of patients, their families, staff and visitors. As noted in the Urban Design Report prepared by Bates Smart, RPAH was originally built as a hospital in a garden setting. Over the years, the need for expansion resulted in a loss of open space.

There are two main spaces remaining: the Nurses Courtyard and Gloucester House Courtyard. The Nurses Courtyard is a staff only space, and well used. Gloucester House Courtyard is available for public use. The rear gardens and the southern courtyard also provide some outdoor space, however as noted in the Urban Design Report, are overshadowed and underutilised.

RPAH is surrounded by large open space areas, primarily located at USYD. The hospital has views towards St Johns Oval, Sydney University Oval and St Andrews.

Research shows there are benefits of hospital outdoor spaces (Neducin et al. 2010) for people. Historically, in the 14th and 15th centuries and similarly to RPAH, hospital buildings were designed among garden settings. With technological advancement in medical science and building construction in the 20th century, there was a shift in hospital design towards staff efficiencies. This saw the construction of more buildings, and in some hospital settings, high rise buildings and large parking lots (Neducin et al. 2010). In more recent times, there is again a larger focus on patient needs and the positive impact patient-oriented hospital design can have on clinical outcomes for people (Bengtsson and Grahn 2014). According to Becker et al. (2010) research shows that the focus only on decreasing a negative state, such as illness through medicine, does not necessarily increase positive states. Rather, as Marcus and Barnes (1999) found, garden environments can have three positive impacts on the healing process for patients including providing relief from physical symptoms, reducing stress and improving overall well-being. Research also found increased staff satisfaction and enhanced well-being (Waxman et al. 1984).

Impact of the proposal

As noted in Section 4.5, stakeholders identified a need to creating more open space and potentially enhance opportunities to connect with open space located at USYD.

The proposal will provide additional open space and improved landscape features on site. The landscape design for the proposal intends to create a series of places that feel welcoming, connect with Country, honour the heritage of the site, create easy wayfinding and promote healing.

The northern arrival space will provide a native forest landscape area with a circular clearing of Cabbage Tree Palms and sandstone seating. The intention for this space is to provide an inclusive gathering place for people to connect with Country. The existing Indigenous Garden and character of tree planting along John Hopkins Avenue in this space will be retained. New plant species in this space will be primarily of the Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest community and will include plants used for traditional medicinal and ceremonial purposes. The northern arrival space will maintain the Nurses Courtyard as a dedicated area of open space for staff. A landscaped terrace is also proposed over the northern end of Building 89 to celebrate the critically endangered Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub ecological community planted in this space.

It is also proposed to provide a sunken gardens on Level 3 and a courtyard on Level 4 of Building 89. The Level 3 sunken gardens are designed to maximise greenery for hospital users to connect to nature. This includes vertical greening on eastern facades. The southern sunken garden on level three is designated for hospital staff use with greenery, movable furniture and weather protection creating a cool and pleasant environment for staff on breaks. The Level 4 central courtyard will be a key wayfinding node from the north to south of the hospital and provide a verdant space for respite and connection with nature. It will provide tree planting, loose furniture to sit and climber planting. Planting in the Central Courtyard is inspired both by Country and the Rear Gardens heritage planting legacy.

To improve and make better use of the currently underused eastern gardens it is proposed to provide additional planting with a mix of native and exotic trees with a dense understory. Over the new eastern wing building, a green roof is proposed with planting including a mix of native and exotic ground covers, shrubs and trees.

Management measures	SIA recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with Indigenous groups to inform the landscape approach. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working with USYD to enable better access between the hospital campus and University open space areas. In accordance with the landscape design statement, appoint a landscape maintenance contractor to prepare a proposed maintenance works program.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to engage with Indigenous groups throughout the detailed design of landscaped areas to ensure appropriate planting species and design decisions are aligned with Connecting with Country principles.	
Residual impact (considering management measures)		
Likelihood: Likely	Magnitude: High	Resultant impact: Moderate
<p>The redevelopment will provide additional open space areas and improved landscape character for patients, their families, staff and visitors. The landscape design aims to enhance connection with Country and provide more usable and appealing spaces for use of patients, visitors and staff. As shown by the research, there are positive benefits to open space provided in hospitals including improved clinical health outcomes and reduced stress for staff.</p> <p>The increase in open space and landscaping is likely to have a positive impact on the patient, visitor and staff experience.</p>		

6.3. NOISE AND OPERATIONAL IMPACTS OF THE TEMPORARY HELIPAD LANDING SITE

Description of impact
Noise and operational impacts from the temporary helipad landing site (HLS).
Current environment
<p>The RPAH plays an important role in providing emergency care to the local community, as well as providing support to other hospitals which may be unable to provide the same level of care or are over capacity. In these circumstances, patient transport by helicopter is an essential and well utilised service offered by the RPAH. Data from 2018-2021 shows that RPAH transferred an average of 107 patients per year, mostly inbound (Health Infrastructure NSW, 2022). This equates to an average of approximately two flights per week accessing the helipad.</p> <p>The current HLS is located on the east campus, at the west wing of the main hospital building. The current HLS is well positioned close to hospital uses in the immediate surrounds, education uses to the east and active recreation to the south.</p>
Impact of the proposal
<p>The current HLS will not be usable during construction of the redevelopment. A temporary HLS is proposed to service the hospital for emergency medical retrievals and patient transport services during construction. The proposed location is at the west campus on the roof of an existing multi-storey car park. It is expected the temporary HLS will be in operation for two years until the proposed new HLS, located on the eastern wing building, is complete.</p> <p>A NVIA was prepared by Arup to assess the operational noise generated by the proposed temporary helipad. The primary areas of concern were for residents of student accommodation at 106-112 Church Street (Queen Mary Building) and the Naamuru Parent and Baby Unit. The Naamuru Parent and Baby Unit has been assessed as residential as it includes eight rooms for families to temporarily live in while receiving medical care. The assessment found the predicted noise impact to these receivers exceeded the relevant noise criteria by up to 7dB during the day and 23dB during the night. Exceedances of more than 15dB during the night have the potential to cause sleep disturbances for residents.</p> <p>To mitigate these noise impacts, the assessment considered a range of options to relocate the temporary HLS. The proposed location was found to be the only suitable site, as alternative locations would impact</p>

other residents and hospital units more significantly. To reduce the severity of noise impacts on residents on Church Street, Arup recommends maximising the use of southeast and southwest flight paths where safety and environmental conditions allow.

As noted in Section 5.5, at the time of consultation representatives of SLHD's service planning team were uncertain how patients would be transported from the HLS to east campus, noting that most patients being transported by helipad are in an emergency. This has been addressed through further consultation with the SLHD team and proposed changes to the road network, as outlined in the Traffic and Accessibility Impact Assessment. It is proposed to provide new ambulance bays on Grose Street and also make Grose Street a two-way road to allow for ambulances to enter and exit the bays from Hospital Road. This will provide the shortest possible route between the temporary HLS and the main hospital building on the east campus.

Management measures	SIA recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with SLHD, NSW Air Ambulance, NETS and Toll to determine the most feasible location for the HLS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the noise and vibration impacts on nearby residents while the temporary HLS is in operation at this location. This should include implementing a complaints process for residents to raise any issues.

Residual impact (considering management measures)

Likelihood: Likely	Magnitude: Moderate	Resultant impact: High
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Noise impacts of the temporary helipad landing site are likely to have a negative impact on residents at 106-112 Church Street (Queen Mary Building) and the Naamuru Parent and Baby Unit. It is noted the operation of the helipad is critical and all other feasible alternative options were explored to find a location that would have the least impact on residential receivers.

Implementing monitoring and a complaints process for residents to communicate any issues during the operation of the temporary HLS, noise impacts are likely to be managed.

With the implementation of the proposed road network changes, operational impacts of the temporary HLS are likely to have a neutral impact on RPAH patients and staff.

6.4. STRESS ON PEOPLE ACCESSING THE CAMPUS

Description of impact
Increase in demand for car parking spaces, resulting in stress on staff and visitors accessing the campus
Current environment
<p>There are a total of 2,595 off-street parking spaces at RPAH across several car parks. These are all paid or restricted access facilities. The largest facilities are the RPAH staff car park with 996 spaces and the staff and visitor carpark with 1,027 spaces.</p> <p>The Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment undertook an occupancy survey across all car parks. This found the current occupancy is at 83%. The assessment found that majority of parking demand at RPAH is currently from staff. Given the operational requirements of the hospital, many staff need to access the hospital campus at different times of the day and night, sometimes during medial emergencies or other stressful contexts.</p> <p>As identified through a staff and visitor survey undertaken by SCT Consulting, in 2021 64% of staff travelled to work via car. This was an increase from 56% prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Other access methods used by staff and visitors were rail (13%), bus (11%), walking (9%) and cycling (2%). As noted in</p>

the Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment, a poor cycling network, minimal end of trip facilities and long walk distance to rapid mass transit reduces staff and visitor access options.

In consultation, a representative of the City of Sydney noted that with an increasing the workforce, accessible transport methods should be considered. Consultation with SLHD representatives also raised potential traffic and car parking demands as areas for concern with an increasing workforce.

Impact of the proposal

A key focus of the proposal is to encourage sustainable methods of transport to work, and to maximise the use of existing parking infrastructure. No additional car parking facilities are proposed.

As outlined in the Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment, car parking demand is anticipated to be at 2,398 when the development is fully operational. This translates to an occupancy rate of 92% of current car parking.

Implementation of the Green Travel Plan prepared by SCT will be critical to encouraging sustainable methods of travelling to work and managing carparking spaces. The target to 2028 is to reduce travelling to work by car from the current 64% to 50%. The long term 2050 goal is to further reduce this to 33%, with a greater focus on encouraging staff to cycle or travel by public transport to work.

Management measures	SIA recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of a Green Travel Plan with planning initiatives to reach short and long-term target goals for reducing car dependency and encouraging sustainable methods of travel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the detailed design phase, provide end of trip facilities and additional bicycle parking in multiple locations across campus, or at a central easy to access location. Ongoing monitoring of car park activity.

Residual impact (considering management measures)

Likelihood: Likely	Magnitude: Moderate	Resultant impact: High
<p>Demand for car parking at RPAH is already high. Without additional staff car parking, and with an increasing workforce and initially similar staff travel behaviour, there is likely to be a short-term negative impact on staff and visitors. Difficulties in accessing parking can heighten feelings of frustration and stress, and disrupt or delay people's daily activities.</p> <p>However, the implementation of the Green Travel Plan, which sets out short-term and long-term goals on shifting staff travel behaviour to choose more sustainable methods of transport is likely to have a neutral long-term impact.</p>		

6.5. REMOVAL OF HERITAGE ITEMS

Description of impact

Demolition of two heritage buildings and three mature trees located in the rear hospital gardens.

Current environment

The site has many items of local and State heritage significance across the campus. Two of these heritage items are proposed for demolition: a state heritage item, Building 94 – Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology and a local heritage item, Building 95 – RPA Chapel. Several trees are also listed on the City of Sydney Register of Significant Trees, some of which are in the rear gardens.

The Heritage Impact Assessment, prepared by Heritage21, provides a summary of the heritage significance of the buildings. The Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology building was constructed as the hospital's mortuary. It was opened in 1882. In 1886, Dr Carmac Wilkinson, a lecturer in pathology at USYD was appointed the honorary pathologist, which began the close relationship between the medical

school and pathology at RPAH. Dr Wilkinson's role also increased the significance of pathology at RPAH, which led to extensions to the buildings in 1905 and 1920.

The RPA Chapel building was originally located above the entrance hall of the Administration Block and was later relocated until a permanent chapel could be built. Designed by architects Stephenson and Turner, the new chapel building opened in 1995.

The rear garden precinct was established during the early phases of hospital construction in 1874. As noted in the Heritage Impact Assessment, the mature trees contribute to the generally setting of the eastern portion of the site and are linked to the historical development of the RPAH.

Impact of the proposal

The proposal will result in the demolition of the Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology Building, the RPA Chapel and several trees located along Lambie Dew Drive in the rear gardens.

The Heritage Impact Assessment notes the Tissue Pathology and Diagnostic Oncology building as having high significance and the RPA Chapel as having moderate significance. It found the removal of these two buildings to have an irreversible and permanent loss of heritage value to the site.

The assessment also found that the removal of the mature heritage listed trees in the rear gardens would result in a loss of heritage value to the site. It was found their removal will fragment the rear garden precinct, which is considered to have moderate heritage significance. The replantation strategy proposed for this precinct would help capture and reinterpret the intention of the heritage precinct, however, was found to not prevent the loss of heritage.

Management measures

- Exploration of relocation, partial relocation or retention of buildings through the design competition process.

SIA recommendations

- Implement management measures in the Heritage Impact Assessment including the:
 - Photographic archival recording of sites and buildings
 - Undertaking detailed architectural drawings of the buildings for record
 - Salvaging fabric and material where possible
 - Preparing and implementing a detailed Interpretation Strategy and Conservation Management Plan
 - Implementing a replantation strategy to mitigate the loss of mature trees with the aim to retain a similar aspect of the vegetated, green buffer.

Residual impact (considering management measures)

Likelihood: Almost certain

Magnitude: Moderate

Resultant impact: High

The demolition of heritage buildings and heritage listed trees is likely to have a negative impact on the heritage significance of the site, which contributes to the overall character of the area and how people experience place. It is acknowledged that a rigorous design process was undertaken and options were explored for relocation, part relocation and/or retention of heritage items. These options were not considered viable for several reasons, such as that any new additions would disrespect the original setting of heritage buildings and clinical outcomes would not be able to met.

With the implementation of the recommendations made in the Heritage Impact Assessment, and outlined above, the demolition of heritage items will have a low negative impact on Camperdown residents, City of Sydney and Inner West LGA residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff, USYD students and staff.

7. CONCLUSION

This SIA has been undertaken to assess the potential social impacts arising from the redevelopment of RPAH.

Based on the assessment in this report, the key social impacts of this proposal are:

- **Delivery of expanded hospital services:** The redevelopment of RPAH will help meet projected health needs of residents of the SLHD and maintain the hospital's role as a State-wide and national principal referral hospital. It is noted that the proposal may not provide all the projected infrastructure set out in the Clinical Services Plan to meet the health needs of the community to 2031. Notwithstanding this, the delivery of expanded health services at one of the major national referral hospitals will still have a very high positive social impact on the community.
- **Increased access to high quality open space:** The redevelopment will provide additional open space areas and improved landscape character for patients, their families, staff and visitors. The landscape design aims to enhance connection with Country and provide more usable and appealing spaces for use of patients, visitors and staff. As shown by the research, there are positive benefits to open space provided in hospitals including improved clinical health outcomes and reduced stress for staff. The increase in open space and landscaping is likely to have a positive impact on the patient, visitor and staff experience.
- **Noise and operational impacts of the temporary helipad landing site:** Noise impacts of the temporary helipad landing site are likely to have a negative impact on residents at 106-112 Church Street (Queen Mary Building) and the Naamuru Parent and Baby Unit. It is noted the operation of the helipad is critical and all other feasible alternative options were explored to find a location that would have the least impact on residential receivers. Implementing monitoring and a complaints process for residents to communicate any issues during the operation of the temporary HLS, noise impacts are likely to be managed. With the implementation of the proposed road network changes, operational impacts of the temporary HLS are likely to have a neutral impact on RPAH patients and staff.
- **Stress on people accessing the Campus:** Demand for car parking at RPAH is already high. Without additional staff car parking, and with an increasing workforce and initially similar staff travel behaviour, there is likely to be a short-term negative impact on staff and visitors. Difficulties in accessing parking can heighten feelings of frustration and stress and disrupt or delay people's daily activities. However, the implementation of the Green Travel Plan, which sets out short-term and long-term goals on shifting staff travel behaviour to choose more sustainable methods of transport is likely to have a neutral long-term impact.
- **Removal of heritage items:** The demolition of heritage buildings and heritage listed trees is likely to have a negative impact on the heritage significance of the site, which contributes to the overall character of the area and how people experience place. It is acknowledged that a rigorous design process was undertaken and options were explored for relocation, part relocation and/or retention of heritage items. These options were not considered viable for several reasons, such as that any new additions would disrespect the original setting of heritage buildings and clinical outcomes would not be able to met. With the implementation of the recommendations made in the Heritage Impact Assessment, and outlined above, the demolition of heritage items will have a low negative impact on Camperdown residents, City of Sydney and Inner West LGA residents, RPAH patients, families/carers and staff, USYD students and staff.

7.1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are provided to further manage the potential impacts from the proposal:

- As requested by MLALC, provide a smoking ceremony onsite prior to ground disturbing works
- Further enhance representation of Indigenous culture in the design of buildings and spaces through art and storytelling.
- Continued engagement with USYD on construction activities and timelines for proposed works of the SBA building, particularly alignment of noisy activities.

- Implementation of a detailed Construction, Noise and Vibration Management Plan and continued engagement with the community throughout the lifecycle of the RPAH redevelopment program.
- Monitor the noise and vibration impacts on nearby residents while the temporary HLS is in operation at this location. This should include implementing a complaints process for residents to raise any issues.
- Engage with the local Aboriginal community to discuss potential naming protocols for buildings and spaces within the redeveloped areas of the hospital.
- Implement wayfinding signage that is accessible for people with disabilities, impairments and for culturally and linguistically diverse populations.
- Continue working with USYD to enable better access between the hospital campus and University open space areas.
- In accordance with the landscape design statement, appoint a landscape maintenance contractor to prepare a proposed maintenance works program.
- Implementing a replantation strategy to mitigate the loss of mature trees with the aim to retain a similar aspect of the vegetated, green buffer.
- Continue to engage with Indigenous groups throughout the detailed design of landscaped areas to ensure appropriate planting species and design decisions are aligned with Connecting with Country principles.
- At the detailed design phase, provide end of trip facilities and additional bicycle parking in multiple locations across campus, or at a central easy to access location.
- Ongoing monitoring of car park activity.
- Implement management measures in the Heritage Impact Assessment including the:
 - Photographic archival recording of sites and buildings
 - Undertaking detailed architectural drawings of the buildings for record
 - Salvaging fabric and material where possible
 - Preparing and implementing a detailed Interpretation Strategy and Conservation Management Plan.

7.2. OVERALL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Based on this assessment and the recommendations provided, the redevelopment of RPAH is likely to have a positive social impact on the community. It will provide a significant addition to the campus that will help meet the projected health needs in the SLHD and beyond.

REFERENCES

This SIA has been informed by a range of data sources, information and technical studies. The following data sources have been used:

Demographic, crime and health data

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2016, Greater Sydney, City of Sydney LGA (SA3) and Camperdown (SA2) data.

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, 2021, School enrolment data.

Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, Camperdown, City of Sydney LGA and NSW hotspot maps and crime rates.

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Policy documents

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City of Sydney, 2022, Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050: Community Strategic Plan.

City of Sydney, 2019, A City for All: Towards a socially just and resilient Sydney.

Technical studies

Architectus, 2022, Visual Impact Assessment.

Arup, 2022, Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment.

Biosis, 2022, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment.

Construction Planning Advice Consultancy, 2022, Preliminary Construction Management Plan.

Heritage 21, 2022, Statement of Heritage Impact.

Jacobs, Bates Smart and Neeson Murcutt + Nellie, 2022, Design Report.

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Other sources

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