

Achieving together - better health, better care

9 December 2019

Megan Fu
Principal Planner
Social Infrastructure Assessments
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

RE: AMENDED REDEVELOPMENT OF GREENWICH HOSPITAL (CONCEPT)

Dear Ms Fu,

The Northern Sydney Primary Health Network offers its support for the Amended Redevelopment of Greenwich Hospital Concept submitted to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment in November.

The Northern Sydney PHN, operated by the Sydney North Health Network, is one of 31 Primary Health Networks established by the Australian Government to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of health and medical services for the local community. Our focus is on patients who are at risk of poor health outcomes and we work to improve the coordination of their care, so they receive the right care, in the right places at the right time.

HammondCare's long-term vision to redevelop the Greenwich Hospital site into an integrated and contemporary health campus will be a valuable enhancement to the suite of health services available in northern Sydney, especially in the area of senior's health.

Australia's population is ageing, and the health system must respond. In 2017, there were 3.8 million Australians aged 65 and over – about 15 per cent of the population. By 2057, this group will be 22 per cent of the population. By 2097, projects put this group at 25 per cent of the population.

Northern Sydney has a higher proportion of older Australians than the national average. By 2031, nearly 1 in 5 residents are forecast to be aged 65 or more in this area. The Lane Cove LGA is a notable seniors' hub.

Greenwich Hospital is already a busy sub-acute hospital. In 2017-18 there were more than 27,800 bed days of care annually plus 31,464 outpatient services and 2493 visits for home and community care. The hospital offers palliative care, specialised seniors mental health, rehabilitation as in-patient services. It offers rehabilitation, palliative care and Hammond at Home as outpatient services. It is home to the world-leading specialised Dementia Centre located in heritage-listed Pallister House. The Amended



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Redevelopment of Greenwich Hospital Concept allows for further growth of these services.

The initial concept proposal for Greenwich Hospital submitted to the Department earlier this year included a 150-place hospital health care facility with a mix of inpatient hospital beds, palliative care beds and residential aged care beds. Approximately 329 car parking spaces would be placed underground to maximise greenspace. The changes transform the hospital from a 1960s facility into an integrated and contemporary health campus.

In November, HammondCare submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment its amended concept proposal following a long process of consultation with the community. The amendments have reduced bulk and scale of the seniors living accommodation, introduced a respite centre and protected the tree canopy.

Regards,

Lynelle Hales
Chief Executive Officer
Sydney North Primary Health Network