

# nWCH Block and Stack Plans

## General FAQs

The 'Block and Stack' plans for our new hospital have been released, giving staff, consumers and the community a first look at where each department or service could be located within each level of our new building.

This document has been developed to provide further information about the relationships between clinical functions, services, building and other facilities both horizontally and vertically, and how the Block and Stack plans will help inform the overall Concept Design.

### **Where is the main entrance?**

The front entrance will be on level 3, along with the main drop-off and pick up zone. On level 3 there will be public connections to the carpark, Park Lands and the RAH.

### **Is there more than one entrance to the hospital?**

The main entrance to the hospital will be located on level 3, and will be accessible from the car park via a park bridge. This will enable pedestrian access and vehicle drop-off and pick-up at the main entrance.

There will also be a number of other entry points:

- Level 1: Consumer access to the Home Equipment Centre (with time limited parking), nWCH entrance with some parking available for on-call clinical staff and emergency patients
- Level 2: Emergency Department access and patient drop off via George Street
- Level 3: Entrance via main entrance, with additional entry via a pedestrian access from Port Road, and public access via the RAH.

### **Will the nWCH be accessible for consumers with a disability?**

All entrances to the nWCH will be accessible for consumers and staff with a disability.

### **How will the departments be accessed?**

Departments and services will be accessed by the lifts and main thoroughfares as shown in the Block and Stack plans, and via internal corridors between and within departments which will be illustrated in the next stages of Design.

### **How will the hospital link to the RAH?**

There will be two air link bridges between the nWCH and the Royal Adelaide Hospital to provide physical and clinical connectivity, giving women access to adult clinical services, including the Intensive Care Unit. Women and children will also be able to be transferred to the nWCH via the RAH Helipad if required. There will also be a link on level 1 which will provide back of house connectivity.



# nWCH Block and Stack Plans

## General FAQs

### **Can all the departments and services fit in the new hospital?**

This is just the very first step in the design phase but the Block and Stack plans have shown us that the departments and services will fit within the building.

There are many more steps in the Design Phase, so these plans will evolve over time.

### **Has the design of the hospital catered for future expansion space?**

The contemporary healthcare design will ensure the new facility will be adaptable and respond to the evolution of models of care and future trends in medical and technological advancements.

### **Why don't the early concept drawings show the square meterage?**

The Block and Stack plans show that the departments and services will fit within the building. The focus of this phase of Design is the focus of location and adjacencies for each department and service.

During Schematic Design, there will be movement of boundaries and shapes of these areas as corridors, shared spaces, and flows of patients and staff are developed.

### **What does 'workspace' include?**

Workspace is designed to support the administrative activities of staff and other stakeholders (such as volunteers, state-wide services staff, students and university staff) when they do not have face to face contact with patients or the general public. Workspace areas also include corporate support services.

In order to optimise workspace flexibility and to enhance staff interactions a blended workspace approach will be adopted which supports clinical team integration, requirements for quiet and confidential work/ phone calls, meetings, and staff rest and recovery.

### **Where will staff workspace areas be located?**

Staff workspace areas are located on each level throughout the building.

The allocation of workspace will be identified in the Schematic Design stage, once the clinical planning and clinical adjacencies are confirmed in the final Block and Stack plans during the concept phase. The allocation of staff workspace will be based on a set of criteria which will be developed over the coming months.

### **For more information**

nWCH Project  
Level 1, 99 Gawler Place  
Adelaide SA 5000  
nWCHengagement@sa.gov.au



[www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons](http://www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons)



Government of  
South Australia



**BUILDING  
WHAT MATTERS**  
Hospitals

# nWCH Block and Stack Plans

## General FAQs

### How is pandemic management being incorporated into the nWCH design?

The nWCH will require the development of a pandemic response procedure and escalation planning (flexibility to respond while maintaining business as usual capacity).

The design of the nWCH will incorporate pandemic design responses, including, but not limited to:

- HVAC design principles
- Access points and vertical movement
- Ability to separate flows
- Flexible and rapid response
- Pandemic response mode designed into departments
- Isolation rooms
- Touch free technology and material selections
- Workspace and digital flexibility

### Why was this site chosen for the new hospital?

A number of potential site options for the new Women and Children's Hospital were identified by the nWCH Taskforce and a site analysis was undertaken.

The evaluation criteria included assessing the clinical and physical connection to the Royal Adelaide Hospital, access to public transport, site proximity to accommodation for families and complementary services that support person and family centred care, site connectivity to education, research, and the Adelaide BioMed City, and access and views of green space.

The Taskforce assessed all site options against these criteria and determined that the preferred site at the western end of the Adelaide BioMed City will meet the needs of South Australian families into the future

### Will the new site be big enough to meet future demand?

The new hospital will be significantly larger than our current hospital, with the footprint growing from 96,000m<sup>2</sup> to 108,000m<sup>2</sup>, and some non-clinical services will be relocated offsite, resulting in even more space for patient treatment areas.

The contemporary healthcare design will ensure the new facility will be adaptable and respond to the evolution of models of care and future trends in medical and technological advancements.

### When will early works commence?

Enabling works to prepare the site are expected to start at the end of this year, while early works and construction works are due to start late next year.

### When will the new hospital be ready?

Construction is scheduled for completion in late 2026, enabling the hospital to be open for patients from 2027.

### What will happen to the existing WCH?

Steps to determine the future of the existing WCH site will be managed by Renewal SA once services have been transferred to the nWCH.

### For more information

nWCH Project  
Level 1, 99 Gawler Place  
Adelaide SA 5000  
nWCHengagement@sa.gov.au



[www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons](http://www.ausgoal.gov.au/creative-commons)



Government of  
South Australia

