

Aboriginal knowledge shapes master plan

Aboriginal Elders, community members and hospital staff have participated in a Listening to Country session to help the New Bankstown Hospital project team better understand the needs of Aboriginal people, and how we can embed First Nations understanding in our design.

“It’s always beautiful to see the Uncles and Aunties we haven’t seen for a while,” Yerrabingin facilitator and proud Maneroo Woiwurrung man Christian Hampson said.

“When we were first talking about the project it was very much in the future but now we’re starting to talk about some the tangible opportunities and ideas for designing with Country.”

Christian said there were a number of strong ideas, including what one Aunty described as “having landscape that wraps around you”.

“Urban places need connection to the texture of the environment, and plants for mental health well-being,” Christian said.

“It’s nice to see community seeing themselves in the idea of the design.”



Listening to Country session with local Aboriginal Elders, staff and community members

Some of the key themes from the day included the need to create welcoming places inspired by Country, having green spaces to enjoy so you feel connected even when you can’t go outside, accessibility, and creating a place you go to be well.

The consultation session was the first of several including workshops and pop-up information sessions across our diverse community.

Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital Acting General Manager Jennifer Assaf said it’s important that people take this opportunity to share their ideas with the project team.

“The master plan is expected to be released in late 2024 and there will be plenty of opportunities to see the plan and ask questions,” Jennifer said.

“This will be a very special project for our unique community and we will keep everyone up to date as the project progresses.”

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Lebanese Muslim Association Health Expo

Multicultural connection

Thanks to SWSLHD Multicultural Health Team and the Lebanese Muslim Association (pictured left) for inviting us to their Multicultural and Community Health and Wellness Expo.

It was great to connect with other local health and community service providers, and to talk to the community members about planning for the New Bankstown Hospital.

Our fact sheet is now available in Arabic and Vietnamese on our website.

Hospital 'central' to our local community

More than 300 people stopped by our recent pop-up information sessions at Bankstown Central shopping centre and Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital.

The sessions provided an opportunity for staff, patients, carers, visitors and community members to ask questions and share their feedback.

In addition to the community sessions, staff representatives from all areas of the hospital attended a master planning workshop.

The workshop explored the layout of the site, traffic flow, links to local transport, parking, sustainability and the potential for landscaping and green spaces which would connect the site to local views.

The idea of a hospital 'town centre' with vibrant retail and places to gather and relax was also important, along with accessibility and making the spaces welcoming for people of all ages, cultures and abilities.

All the feedback from the sessions and a recent community survey has been provided to our project team to support master planning.

Redeveloping a hospital is not as straight forward as you may think – every redevelopment is tailored to a community's unique needs.

To find out more about how we plan and build a hospital, visit our website or go to [How to Build a Hospital](#).



Staff workshop



Staff workshop



Pop-up info session



Pop-up info session