

# Shaping the Wollongong Health Precinct Strategy

A discussion paper to guide a place-based approach for the future Wollongong Health Precinct.

December 2023







# Acknowledgement of Country

The NSW Government acknowledges that the Wollongong Health Precinct stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge this land as Dharawal Country and recognise the many different clans and family groups that have lived, worked, visited and cared for this Country for over 65,000 years.

Aboriginal people are the first peoples of Australia. Until the arrival of settlers, the economy was sustainable, and threatened primarily by natural hazards that were met with resilience gained from generations of life on Country. The Aboriginal economy was tied to the land which provided spiritual, cultural and physical sustenance.

Colonisation forcefully dispossessed Aboriginal people of their land, displaced communities, and damaged Country.

This land always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

In developing the Wollongong Health Precinct Strategy, we seek to establish meaningful and collaborative relationships with Aboriginal people. We will seek to shift our focus to a Country-centred approach, respecting, recognising and empowering Aboriginal knowledge in planning processes at a strategic level.

We show our respect for Elders past, present and future through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, and work to provide places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

We commit to helping to support the health and wellbeing of Country by valuing, respecting, and being guided by Aboriginal people, who know that if we care for Country—it will care for us.<sup>1</sup>

We acknowledge that further work is needed beyond the strategy to inform how we care for Country and ensure Aboriginal people, hold a strong voice in shaping the future for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities.



Wollongong Public Hospital, anchor of the Wollongong Health Precinct

# Foreword

## Background

Wollongong is rapidly growing and changing, attracting public and private investment to increase housing supply and choice, deliver new employment opportunities, and improve public spaces, infrastructure and services.

The emerging Wollongong Health Precinct plays an important role in contributing to this growth.

Close to both Wollongong Train Station and Central Business District (CBD), and anchored by Wollongong Public Hospital, the Wollongong Health Precinct is also supported by medical suites, laboratories, training and rehabilitation centres and the Wollongong Private Hospital. These hospitals have close ties to the University of Wollongong and surrounding medical research institutes.

In addition to health services, research and employment uses, the Health Precinct includes existing open and green spaces, public and active transport connections and housing – which can be enhanced to support the vision for the Precinct.

Demand for health services in the region is increasing due to a growing and ageing population. Wollongong Public Hospital requires upgrades to meet community needs. Upgrading and enhancing the Wollongong Public Hospital is an important catalyst to transform

the surrounding Precinct – to attract further investment in health services, research and infrastructure, supporting local prosperity and growing businesses and employment.

## Way Forward

The NSW Government is developing a place-based strategy to outline the future vision for the Wollongong Health Precinct and guide ongoing growth in the area.

Place-based strategies are focused on protecting and enhancing the unique values of a place as it grows and changes. Public engagement is fundamental to this process, to ensure development outcomes align with community values and aspirations.

This discussion paper is an important early step in developing the place-based strategy. By seeking community and stakeholder input, we encourage residents, workers and visitors to collaborate in setting the future vision for this precinct.

**The discussion paper will be open for comment from December 2023 to February 2024.**

The feedback received will inform the preparation of the place-based strategy which will also be exhibited for public comment in mid-late 2024.

# Contents

Introduction	5
Strategic context	6
The health precinct today	7
As a place	7
The health precinct today	8
Its people	9
Strengths	10
Challenges and opportunities	10
Building a vision for the future health precinct	11
Core principles	12
Early directions	14
What's next	16
Working with you	18
References	19

Published by NSW Department of Planning and Environment

Shaping the Wollongong Health Precinct

First published: December 2023

## **Acknowledgements**

This document has been developed in collaboration between the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District, Transport for NSW, Health Infrastructure and Wollongong City Council.

## **Copyright and disclaimer**

© State of New South Wales through Department of Planning and Environment 2023. Information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing, December 2023, and is subject to change.

For more information, please visit

[dpie.nsw.gov.au/copyright](https://dpie.nsw.gov.au/copyright)



# Introduction

The emerging Wollongong Health Precinct plays a key role in delivering on the vision for Wollongong as a connected, innovative and progressive city.

Anchored by Wollongong Public Hospital, the Health Precinct brings together public and private health services, research partnerships, and supporting medical businesses.

Today, the Precinct is a regionally important centre of both health services and employment.

Wollongong Public Hospital alone has over 70,000 admissions annually and employs more than 3,000 doctors, nurses, administration and support staff. By 2031, there will be 25,000 more admissions across the region each year. Surrounding private health services and other businesses attract many more visitors and workers to the area.

Improving the amenity and activation of the Health Precinct, delivering new and enhanced green spaces, strengthening links to Wollongong Train Station and CBD, and incentivising new housing choices would multiply the health, social and economic benefits of co-locating these services and infrastructure.

A place-based strategy is needed to help guide this change in a sustainable and equitable way, and provide a framework for how decisions will be made into the future – to ensure that ongoing development is aligned with community and stakeholder values.

---

We want to hear your thoughts on the future of Wollongong’s Health Precinct.

---



Northern entry to Wollongong Public Hospital

**This discussion paper will inform a place-based strategy to guide the future health precinct, including a spatial plan to describe how we expect the precinct to change over time.**

**This discussion paper marks an important time in the process where we stop, listen and reflect, before we develop the strategy. It will outline what we know so far and ask questions of how the precinct should evolve over time and how community values will shape this change.**

## What is a place-based strategy?

Place-based strategies focus on the characteristics of a place that people value, and how best to protect and enhance these characteristics as a place grows and changes. We develop place strategies for key areas of NSW to bring all the parties involved in a place together to collaborate on a united and agreed vision for an area’s future.

This not only ensures that more people can help shape the future of places that mean a lot to them, but it means that public investment is better targeted to bring more benefits to more people.

## Strategic context

The place-based strategy will be guided by several state and local policy documents, particularly the:

- *Six Cities Region Discussion Paper* (and future Six Cities Region Plan)
- *Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041*
- *Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Transport Plan*
- *Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District Strategic Delivery Plan 2023-2028*
- *Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District Healthcare Services Plan 2020-2030*
- *Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Transport Plan*
- *Wollongong Local Strategic Planning Statement (WCC 2020)*
- *Wollongong Housing Strategy (WCC 2023)*, and
- *Design Guide for Health: Spaces, Places and Precincts*.

These documents guide land use and infrastructure planning and are complemented by other policies that inform how the region grows sustainably. Each document reflects the government's commitments to self-determination for Aboriginal people, transport and infrastructure servicing, economic productivity, sustainability and enhancing the qualities that help create great places to live, work and visit.

### Are there other documents we should also consider?

There are several other strategic plans that will influence the precinct, particularly from NSW Health, Transport for NSW and Wollongong City Council.

Understanding these strategies will help us explore how we can translate them into place-based outcomes when developing the place-based strategy.

## What is a health precinct?

Health precincts vary in size and scale. They have health assets which are often co-located with other services and organisations, with a focus on innovating in healthcare and wellbeing. Health precincts may include public health services, private health services, community and other government services, a medical school and research institutes.

The Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041 was released in June 2021 and includes a series of actions to be implemented by 2026. Action 1 of the regional plan is to develop a strategy for the future Wollongong Health Precinct. As part of our research into action 1 and this discussion paper, we have undertaken a high-level review of land around Wollongong Public Hospital that we consider would be part of the 'future health precinct' (**Figure 1**). This review strategically considered matters such as topography, the transport network, heritage, natural hazards such as flooding, and existing planning controls.

Further research will be undertaken over the next few months so that we can learn more about matters such as:

- current function of the precinct as drawn from community engagement,
- future health care and service needs,
- the ways people interact with the services and places in the precinct, and
- how to improve visitors' experience of the precinct, including through:
  - added car parking,
  - enhanced public transport, walking and cycling infrastructure,
  - places to stop and rest, and
  - shade and shelter.



# The health precinct today

## As a place

**Figure 1** shows what we're referring to as the future health precinct – the area that will be the focus of the place-based strategy. This boundary may be adjusted and refined as we complete different stages of our work and obtain more information and feedback from the community and stakeholders.

There are some areas outside the study area that link to the future health precinct's character and its people, such as the Wollongong Central Business District (CBD), and the University of Wollongong's Innovation Campus. While these areas are outside of the future health precinct, we will examine these links and relationships as the place-based strategy is developed.

The future health precinct:

- is bound by the South Coast train line, connecting local communities via public transport to the South Coast and Sydney Central Business District,
- incorporates the Wollongong Public and Private hospitals which support primary care, specialist and allied health services, as well as medical research and education facilities.
- includes land surrounding the Wollongong Public Hospital, capturing the extent and fall of 'Hospital Hill' to the north and south, and
- provides a transition from core health services and the Wollongong CBD to surrounding residential communities.

## Wollongong Public Hospital

Central to the future health precinct is the Wollongong Public Hospital, the largest of the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District's eight hospitals and the region's tertiary referral hospital. The hospital provides a comprehensive range of inpatient, outpatient and community-based services, including:

- Emergency Department
- Dialysis Unit
- Intensive Care
- Mental Health
- Paediatrics
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Neonatal
- General Surgery
- Orthopaedic surgery
- Neurosurgery
- Radiology (including MRI)
- Pathology
- Plastic Surgery
- Nuclear Medicine (including PET scanner)
- Chest Clinic
- Cardiac Diagnostics
- Allied Health Services
- Illawarra Regional Cancer Care Centre
- Illawarra Elective Surgical Services centre.

As demand for health services across the region continues to grow, Wollongong Public Hospital will be upgraded and enhanced to meet community needs.



# The health precinct today

Figure 1: The Wollongong Health Precinct and its surrounds.

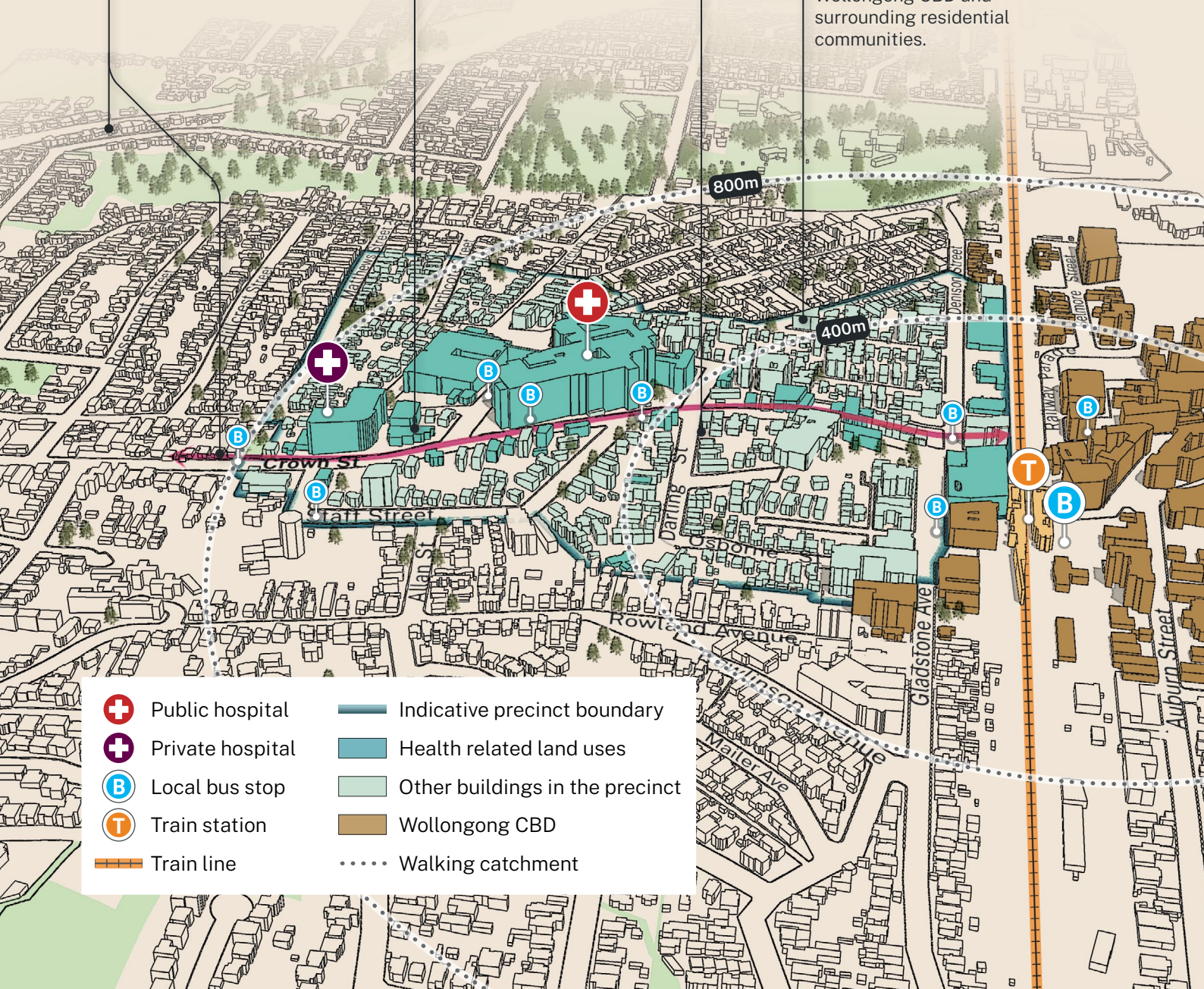
The Princes Motorway connects people to Wollongong from the North and South. Crown Street provides a 'spine' through the precinct, splitting it in two and filtering the movement of people and vehicles to the precinct, and in and out of the CBD.

The University of Wollongong is located outside the precinct, which requires thinking of how to improve its relationship to the precinct.

Health services are centred around the public hospital, reflecting a broader health services network on the edge of the Wollongong CBD.

The Public Hospital is situated on top of a ridge line which defines the precinct. View lines from "Hospital Hill" capture important landscape elements such as the coast, Djerra / Mount Keira and Jumbulla / Mount Kembla.

The precinct provides a transition between the Wollongong CBD and surrounding residential communities.



- |  |                  |  |                                 |
|--|------------------|--|---------------------------------|
|  | Public hospital  |  | Indicative precinct boundary    |
|  | Private hospital |  | Health related land uses        |
|  | Local bus stop   |  | Other buildings in the precinct |
|  | Train station    |  | Wollongong CBD                  |
|  | Train line       |  | Walking catchment               |



# Its people



The population of the Illawarra Shoalhaven region is projected to:

- Grow by approximately 130,000 people by 2041 (32% growth rate).<sup>3</sup>
- Have a higher growth rate than NSW (22%) and Greater Sydney (23%).<sup>3</sup>
- By 2041, approximately 1 in 4 people will be aged 65 years and older.



Residents in the precinct

- Approximately 3,500 people live here.<sup>4</sup>
  - Approximately 65% are families with one or more children.<sup>4</sup>
- Over 1600 dwellings.<sup>4</sup>
- Approximately 350 residents work in the health care sector.<sup>4</sup>
- Approximately 6% of residents require assistance for core activities due to factors such as disability, long term health conditions or old age.<sup>4</sup>



Local employment

- Over 4,000 jobs in the precinct are attributed to the health care sector<sup>5</sup>
  - accounting for approximately 70% of all jobs in the precinct.
- Almost 3,000 of these jobs are located at Wollongong Public Hospital.
- The precinct contributes over \$900M in economic output from the collective industries in the area, such as health care, retail, public administration, construction, real estate services and education and training.<sup>5</sup>



Health

- In 2022/23 Wollongong Public Hospital had:
  - 73,000 emergency department presentations,
  - 43,000 inpatient admissions and
  - 15,000 surgeries.
- By 2031, it is expected that there will be 25,000 more admissions across the region, with an additional 39,000 emergency department presentations.
- Mental health and chronic diseases are identified as key opportunities in the future and are identified as important health needs.



Medical research at Wollongong Public Hospital

## Strengths

From our preliminary investigations, we have identified some strengths in the precinct that we can build on as part of this engagement and leverage in the future place-based strategy.

- The precinct is anchored by the Wollongong Public Hospital, which is an established tertiary level hospital, and the Wollongong Private Hospital which form a distinct health services core for the precinct, and will continue to attract a range of primary care, allied health and medical services.
- Wollongong Public Hospital;
  - actively participates in partnerships for medical research and clinical trials,
  - has a strong local reputation,
  - is a teaching hospital, creating a pipeline of graduates in medical fields, and
  - is a large contributor to local employment.
- The precinct is within walking distance of Wollongong’s CBD. This includes the Wollongong Central Shopping Centre, Crown Street Shopping Precinct and a mix of high and low density living options.
- Public transport is accessible to residents, visitors and workers, through local bus networks and inter-regional connections into the Wollongong Train Station.
- At its highest point, ‘Hospital Hill’, the precinct has views of the significant natural and cultural landmarks of Djerra / Mount Keira and Jumbulla / Mount Kembla, the escarpment, coastline and ‘five islands’ off the coast.

## Question

What do you value about the precinct?  
What do you think could be improved?

## Challenges and opportunities

Our preliminary investigations have also identified some challenges in the area that need to be addressed in the next stage of exploration.

Challenges	Opportunities
New and upgraded health services will be required to meet demand.	Explore potential opportunities for growing health and medical services, medical research and education facilities to meet future care and service needs.
Public open space is limited and existing areas are not fit for purpose.	Identify strategies to ensure the design of the built environment and landscapes reflect the precinct’s core purpose of ‘caring’ for people and community.
The topography limits people’s ability to access goods and services.	Explore new pedestrian and cycling connections, engineering solutions to move people between buildings, and enhancements to local public transport to leverage existing infrastructure.
The local and regional population is ageing.	Create an urban environment that supports the social health of the community, and that can house, heal, and engage the ageing population.
Public transport and car parking is limited in the precinct, restricting people’s ability to access critical health care.	Explore the provision of enhanced public transport services as well as additional car parking in the precinct, appropriate to the context and the scale of proposed development.
There is not enough housing to cater for additional workers or the growing population.	Investigate opportunities to promote higher density living options alongside healthcare services, including affordable housing, particularly for key workers.
The health needs of the population are constantly changing and evolving.	Facilitate greater investment in partnerships between key stakeholders and organisations, such as primary care and other health service providers, to promote knowledge sharing and innovation in medical research practice.



# Building a vision for the future health precinct

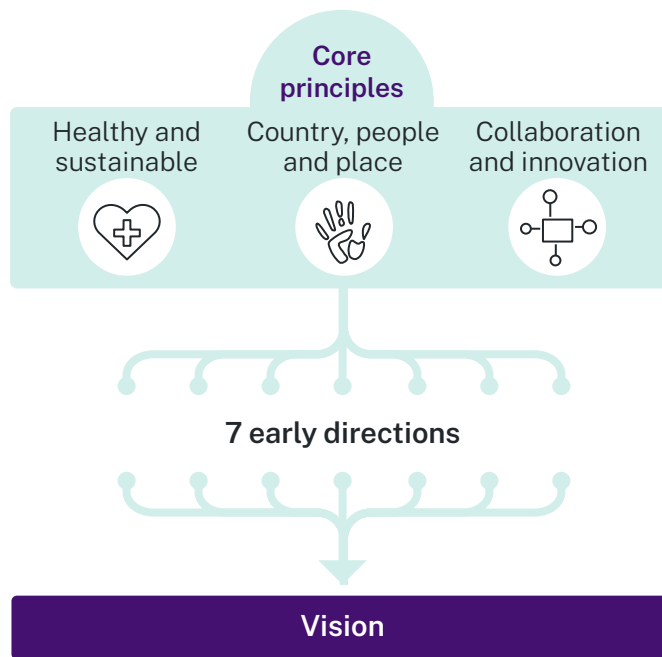
In long term strategic planning, it is important to establish a vision. This helps to clarify where we are going, what is and is not important, and how we are going to get there.

This section outlines 3 core principles and 7 early directions (Figure 2), that we believe can frame the vision for the future health precinct. They draw on our strategic understanding and what we know and have identified about the precinct so far.

These core principles and early directions are not the vision, but are the foundations to start a conversation towards understanding how the future health precinct may be realised over the next 10, 20 and 40 years.

We want to test this framework with the community and people who feel a connection to the area more broadly, including residents, workers and visitors. This includes patients who have used the medical services in the precinct and want to help shape how the area grows and changes in the future.

Figure 2: Developing a vision for the health precinct.



## Core principles

There are many elements that make an area a great place to live, work and visit. The *Design Guide for Health* highlights how health facilities have a critical role in contributing to the creation of great places. Its guidance focuses on the themes outlined in **Figure 3** and can be universally applied to all health precincts across NSW.

We have drawn from the *Design Guide for Health* to develop the 3 core principles, which will inform our thinking and will feature in every aspect of the precinct's planning.

The core principles are the translation of the design guide to reflect the ambitions of the NSW Government for the future Wollongong Health Precinct and will apply to strategic planning, built and natural environments, service delivery and beyond.

These core principles will guide our thinking so that decisions are considered against these metrics when developing the future place-based strategy.

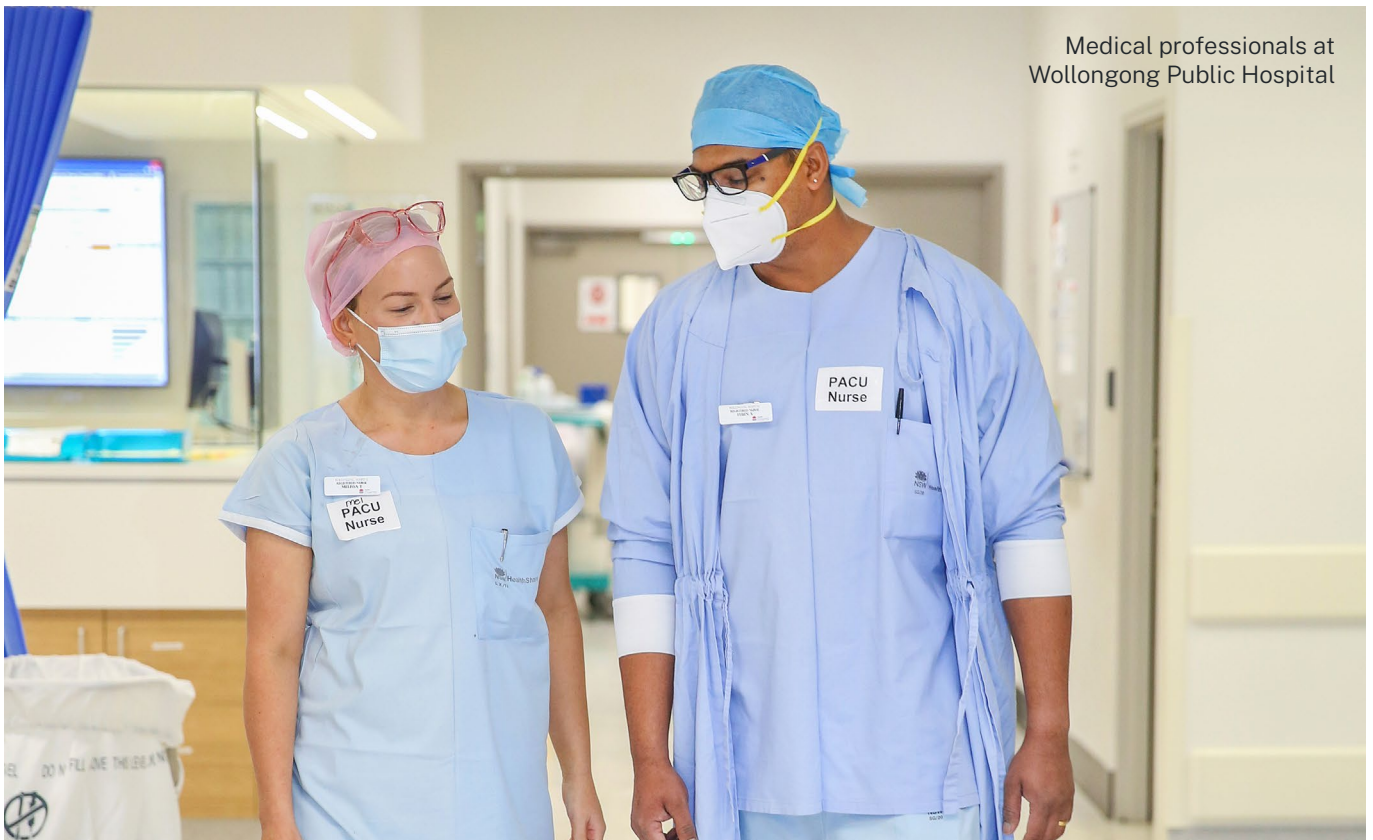
**Figure 3:** Themes as derived from the Design Guide for Health: Spaces, Places and Precincts.<sup>6</sup>



### Question

Are these core principles central to the health precinct's success into the future?

Are there any gaps that are created?



Medical professionals at Wollongong Public Hospital



# Core principles



## Healthy and sustainable

A precinct where the built and natural environments are interconnected, health and wellbeing is supported, and the needs of diverse communities are met.

- ensure the provision of high quality health care and services that are adaptable to meet present day and future needs.
- create an environment that supports physical, mental, and social health for individuals across all stages of life, with a specific focus on the ageing population.
- ensure people are able to age in place, and live healthy lifestyles that suit their needs.
- promote health and wellbeing for how people access, use and move through the precinct.
- ensure the precinct and its users are resilient to natural hazards and respond to climate change.
- provide housing diversity that suits the needs of the region's changing demographics.



## Country, people and place

A precinct that recognises the connections of First Nations peoples to Country, with a lens of contributing towards a vibrant and liveable city.

- co-design spaces and opportunities for First Nations communities to realise self-determination.
- embed places and spaces that accommodate and welcome cultural practices that care for Country and acknowledges and celebrates the significance of Country and community as a way of learning, thinking and acting.
- provide places for people, which balances vibrancy, spaces for people to move freely, and the environment to grow and thrive.
- recognise the spaces that create experiences of arrival and departure, ensuring the precinct is accessible to all.
- encourage infrastructure and community services that brings people together and promotes safety and caring for others.
- provide health services that meet the needs of all users.



## Collaboration and innovation

A precinct where community, healthcare, business, research and education, and government work together to lead innovation in the health and education sectors.

- seek out partnerships with individuals and organisations that can deliver good outcomes for the precinct.
- establish world-leading practices in industry to support innovation and promote learning and creativity to enhance the transfer of knowledge.
- promote inclusion in how health services operate, how we 'age in place,' and how public spaces are designed.
- plan for precinct-wide shared service strategies to avoid unnecessary duplication and inefficiency of services over time.
- promote partnerships that complement the delivery of health services in the precinct and provides new and diverse employment opportunities.



View from the North eastern corner of the precinct, featuring Wollongong Public Hospital

## Early directions

We have developed the following directions as a starting point for developing a place-based strategy for the future Wollongong Health Precinct. They are drawn from the core principles and will evolve as we engage with local stakeholders and further refine the priorities for the future health precinct.

We consider these directions will help shape the future health precinct into a precinct of national significance, as suggested in the *Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041*.

### A patient-centred health precinct for the Illawarra

Providing world-class patient centred care for the region goes beyond delivering upgraded health infrastructure. Successful health precincts leverage co-located health and medical facilities, and partnerships with private health, research institutes, industry, education providers and community services to support and promote innovative health service delivery.

Health facilities also contribute to and reflect the local character, amenity, activation and liveability of an area –and health services can be designed to promote wellbeing by encouraging active living and providing spaces for social connection or reflection and relaxation.

Wollongong Public Hospital is a major tertiary teaching hospital, specialising in a range of complex services including emergency surgery, obstetrics, and cardiac diagnostics. These factors elevate Wollongong Public Hospital as the leading hospital within the region and offer an opportunity to support the growing and ageing population.

NSW Health is leading work to define Wollongong Hospital's levels of specialisation through evidence-based models of care, facilitation of synergies, seamless care between providers, and multidisciplinary capabilities; which allows for frequent and ongoing conversations across disciplines and entities.

To safeguard the hospital's future viability, the strategy needs to explore ways to ensure that the delivery of health services and associated infrastructure is not compromised by incompatible development on surrounding land.

### A well-connected and people friendly environment

While 'Hospital Hill' provides a spectacular setting for the future health precinct, the topographic challenges it presents limit the movement of people to, and within the precinct. This is particularly a challenge for pedestrians and cyclists. However, a large proportion of people will still need to access health services by a motor vehicle. Public transport will play an important role into the future, where the local bus network will be a core way of moving people between places.

The strategy should consider how to better connect the Wollongong Public and Private Hospitals with the wider precinct, in particular with new health services as well as education, research and training opportunities. These facilities should also have better physical connections to the Wollongong Train Station and CBD to help people move around more easily. It will also need to ensure there is adequate car parking available to cater for the instances where people cannot use public transport, or access the precinct by walking or cycling.



## New, lively, attractive and revitalised places for everyone to enjoy

While the area surrounding the Wollongong public and private hospitals is made up of a mix of healthcare, commercial, and residential uses, it does not create a lively and attractive precinct for everyone to enjoy.

The strategy should consider ways to promote a mix of shops, community services, public spaces, and higher density living options in the right locations, including the renewal and revitalisation of existing places. This will attract more people and investment to create an exciting, busy and vibrant centre for all.

## A distinct and welcoming public domain

The health precinct as we know it today lacks the type of public and green spaces that make people who live, work and visit the area feel safe and welcome, and give the precinct a sense of place.

The strategy needs to consider a network of greener and more people friendly spaces and streets throughout the precinct to create a safe, interactive, and better-connected public domain. The strategy should also explore opportunities for place-making to create one or more central meeting places within the precinct that would allow people to enjoy its distinct views and maximise its locational advantages.

## Fostering partnership between business, research, and education

With many co-located public and private health services, and strong connections to research partners, the Wollongong Health Precinct has the potential to drive significant collaboration and innovation.

Wollongong Public and Private Hospitals have close ties with the University of Wollongong and a number of other University partners. Collaboration is facilitated through a range of different pathways, including the graduate programs connected to the University of Wollongong. There are also strong ties between the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District and Coordinare, with strategic planning often undertaken in collaboration for the region. These institutions, among others, play an important role in providing a workforce pipeline for numerous industries to support ongoing employment.

The strategy should explore ways that the precinct can support and build on existing partnerships between the healthcare, education and research sectors, and promote opportunities for greater collaboration with business. For the precinct

to become nationally significant, the strategy needs to support talent attraction, workforce development and business investment initiatives.

## Resilient and designed for future needs

As the precinct transforms over time, it will be important for the strategy to consider how the precinct can become an adaptive, sustainable and resilient built environment. This includes ensuring the future health precinct is designed to feature emissions reduction measures aligned with the NSW Government's target of net-zero emissions by 2050.<sup>7</sup>

The strategy needs to ensure that planning for disaster and adaptation is at the core of the future health precinct's design, to mitigate and manage the natural hazards that face the region and the local area. In addition, the buildings and infrastructure that will be developed as the strategy is implemented must be adaptable as technology and society changes.

## Great homes that can suit the needs of more people

Wollongong has a mix of social housing, affordable housing and housing that people can privately rent or buy. This diversity is important and should be a focus of the strategy. It means long-term residents can stay in the places they know, and a greater mix of people — with a range of skills, backgrounds and needs — can be part of a socially diverse Wollongong.

The strategy needs to ensure that more diverse housing options are provided for in the future health precinct. But, it also needs to make sure that addressing these needs does not compromise the core health functions the strategy seeks to deliver. It should ensure housing is affordable and built to cater for changing demographics and that workers, particularly those who work at the Wollongong Private or Public Hospitals and surrounding health and medical services, can live close to their employment of choice.

---

## Question

What directions do you view as critical to the success of the precinct?

Are there other directions which aren't listed and should be a priority?

---

# What's next

To support the transformation and realisation of the future health precinct, the NSW Government is developing a place-based strategy. The strategy will be drawn from the core principles and early directions, as refined following early stakeholder engagement on this discussion paper.

The strategy will set an overarching strategic framework for how the health precinct changes over time, providing a platform to deliver the shared vision for its future. It will include a vision for the future health precinct, big moves to realise that vision, a spatial plan that shows how the area will evolve over time, and an action plan which describes how the strategy will be implemented.

The strategy will also inform other planning processes, such as:

- detailed planning for Wollongong public hospital
- changes to the planning framework to ensure planning controls are aligned with the vision for the precinct, and
- identifying funding mechanisms for the hospital redevelopment, enabling infrastructure, public open space, and social and affordable housing.

---

## Questions

What does the strategy need to be clear on?

What option(s) would create the most benefits for the precinct and why?

---

## Undertaking planning for the future health precinct

Following the discussion paper, we will be taking a detailed look at the precinct's functions, services and future, including describing what opportunities exist to deliver the guiding principles and early directions as an outcome.









This includes addressing questions about the precinct's future as described in Figure 4 to develop options for the precinct.

Djerra / Mount Keira





**Figure 4:** Planning for the Wollongong Health Precinct.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  <p>How do people move to and from the train station and the CBD?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do our streets need to change in the future?</li> </ul> |  <p>What services are needed in the precinct to support the community?</p>  |
|  <p>How do we reflect the cultural values of Aboriginal communities?</p>   |  <p>What types of homes do we need into the future and where should it go?</p>                                    |
|  <p>Where is best suited for new green public open space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What type of public open space is needed?</li> </ul>                |  <p>What types of jobs do we need into the future?</p>  |
|  <p>How can the precinct's 'constraints' be built upon as key features and strengths?</p>  |  <p>How do we strengthen the interaction between research and training within the precinct's health services?</p> |



## Working with you

We want to hear from the community, interest groups, businesses and other stakeholders in and around the area because we know that a collaborative process will bring about better planned outcomes for the future health precinct, and strengthen Wollongong as a whole.

We expect to refine and adapt the core principles and directions identified in this discussion paper as we talk to more people and do further research. That's why we want to hear from you about your vision for the area and what we should consider as we develop the strategy for the future health precinct.

This discussion paper is a critical step before we start developing the strategy. The NSW Government is working collaboratively across its services in planning, health, transport and local government to ensure objectives and priorities are aligned in delivering a shared vision for the future of the Wollongong Health Precinct.

## Upcoming engagement

Over December 2023–February 2024, there will be a series of community workshops where the project team from the NSW Government will be available to answer any questions about the project, and share with you some information about its development.

You can register for these sessions provide general feedback, or respond to the questions in this document via this link: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/plans-for-your-area/regional-plans/illawarra-shoalhaven-regional-plan-2041/making-it-happen>.

## Program and timing



## Get in touch



Visit <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/plans-for-your-area/regional-plans/illawarra-shoalhaven-regional-plan-2041/making-it-happen>



Email your feedback to [wollongong@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:wollongong@planning.nsw.gov.au)





Wollongong and its surrounds

# References

- 1 State of NSW (Government Architect NSW), Connecting with Country – Good practice guidance on how to respond to Country in the planning, design and delivery of built environment projects in NSW, 2023. <https://www.governmentarchitect.nsw.gov.au/projects/designing-with-country>
- 2 Fleming, A. P. (1967), The Albert Memorial Hospital, Wollongong, N.S.W., 1864-1908, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong. <http://ro.uow.edu.au/ihspubs/15>
- 3 State of NSW (Department of Planning and Environment), Population Projections, 2022 Release. Accessed October 2023. <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Research-and-Demography/Population-Projections>
- 4 REMPLAN (n.d), Community Module, viewed October 2023. <https://www.remplan.com.au>
- 5 REMPLAN (n.d), Economy Module, viewed October 2023. <https://www.remplan.com.au>
- 6 State of NSW (Government Architect NSW and Health Infrastructure), Design Guide for Health: Spaces, Places and Precincts, 2023. <https://www.governmentarchitect.nsw.gov.au/guidance/health>
- 7 State of NSW (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment), Net Zero Plan – Stage 1 2020-2030, 2021. <https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-08/net-zero-plan-2020-2030-200057.pdf>

Postal Address:  
Department of Planning and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124

Street Address:  
4 Parramatta Square  
12 Darcy Street  
Parramatta NSW 2150