

Public exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement

Invitation to share your thoughts

The Tweed Valley Hospital project will be assessed under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, consistent with other State Significant Development (SSD) projects.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Stage 1 SSD planning application for the new hospital has been lodged with the Department of Planning and Environment.

The EIS is the first of two planning submissions for the Tweed Valley Hospital, and seeks overall approval for the hospital concept and consent to commence early and enabling works on the site.

A second EIS application covering the detailed design, construction and commissioning of the hospital is planned for submission early in 2019, following determination of the Stage 1 application and completion of schematic design.

The public exhibition process is your opportunity to review detailed documentation on the planning and early works for the new hospital and have your say through the formal feedback submission process.

What is an Environmental Impact Statement?

An EIS is a comprehensive and mostly technical document that provides information on a project's potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures, and is used to inform development approval decisions.

The document responds to the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) that are issued by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. The SEARs for the Tweed Valley Hospital project can be found on the Department of Planning and Environment's website.

What does the EIS cover?

The EIS for the Tweed Valley Hospital Project includes chapters on specific topics to address the requirements outlined in the SEARs. These topics cover both the concept proposal and Stage 1 works for the new hospital and include:

- » Aboriginal heritage
- » Agricultural impact
- » Biodiversity assessment
- » Built form and urban design
- » Bushfire
- » Community engagement strategy
- » Contamination
- » Drainage
- » Ecologically Sustainable Development
- » Environmental amenity
- » Flooding and coastal hazards
- » Impact on airspace
- » Noise and vibration
- » Policies and strategic context
- » Sediment, erosion and dust controls
- » Social and economic impacts
- » Staging
- » Transport and accessibility
- » Utilities
- » Waste
- » Water and soils.

Where can I view the EIS?

The EIS is available to view electronically on the Department of Planning and Environment's website at:

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/page/development-categories/health---public-service/hospitals/?action=view_job&job_id=9575.

Hard copies are also available at the Tweed Shire Council Chambers, Tweed Library, Kingscliff Library, and the Department of Planning and Environment's regional and Sydney offices.

How can I find out more?

The project team will be out in the community running pop-up information stalls to provide information on where you can find the EIS documentation and how to submit your feedback.

We will also be running drop-in sessions at the project office. Please register your interest in attending a drop-in session by contacting the project team on 1800 992 634 or emailing tweedvalleyhospital@health.nsw.gov.au.

The project website has all the latest news and information and can be found at www.tweedvalleyhospital.health.nsw.gov.au

How can I have my say?

The Department of Planning and Environment advertise the public exhibition period and place the EIS on exhibition, inviting feedback from the community through a formal submission process.

If you would like to lodge feedback on the State Significant Development application, please follow the formal process managed by the Department of Planning and Environment and outlined on their website.

Next steps

Following completion of the public exhibition period, the Department of Planning and Environment will carry out an assessment of the application, taking into consideration all submissions received.

The project team will be provided with the community submissions and required to produce a Response to Submissions Report, which will also be made publicly available.

The Department of Planning and Environment will make a recommendation to the Minister for Planning regarding the application following review of the Response to Submissions Report.

The Minister for Planning (or delegate) will then determine the application, including consent conditions that must be adhered to during construction and commissioning of the hospital.

Early works on site will follow on from preliminary works once planning approvals are in place, with the new hospital targeting completion in 2022 and opening in 2023.

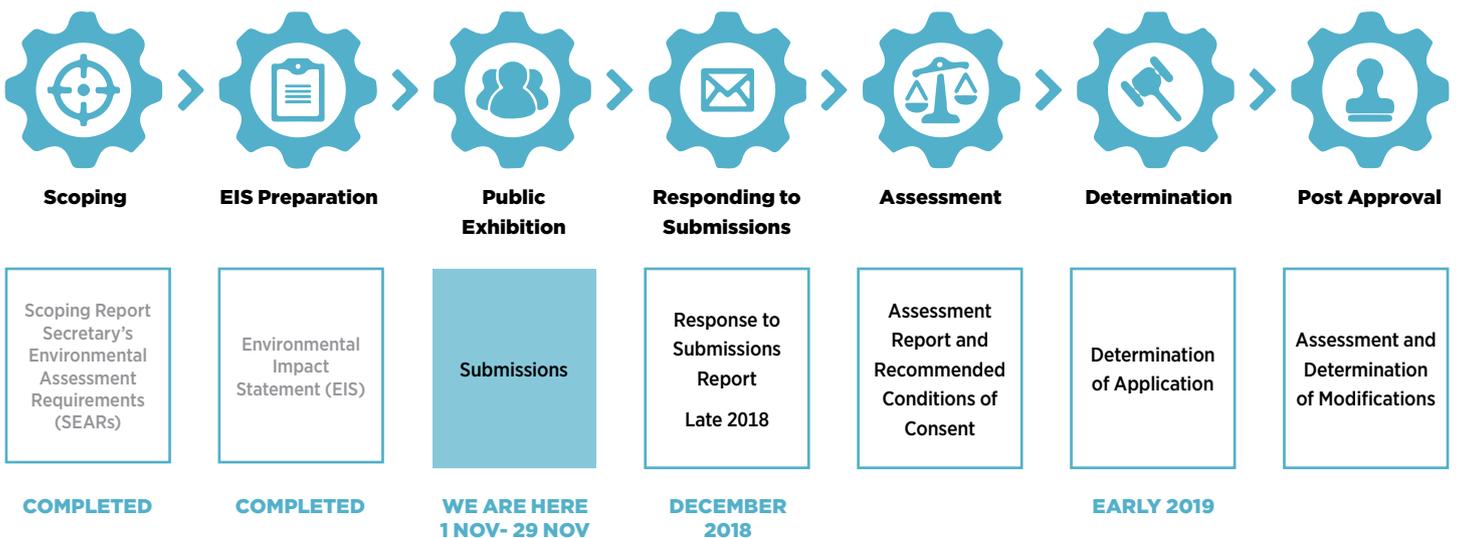


Figure 1 | SSD planning application process

