

The Tweed Valley Skills Centre



Concept design of the **Tweed Valley Skills Centre**

The Tweed Valley Skills Centre will play a key role in providing education, training and employment opportunities for the local community

The **Tweed Valley Skills Centre** is an exciting initiative for Health Infrastructure, Northern NSW Local Health District and TAFE NSW to partner together to improve health and education outcomes for the Tweed-Byron region.

This is the first of many joint initiatives that demonstrates the benefits of the adjacency of the new Tweed Valley Hospital site with TAFE NSW Kingscliff, and the vision of developing an integrated Health and Education Precinct across the two campuses over time.

The new **Tweed Valley Skills Centre** is made up of a number of components that together will provide education, training and employment opportunities for the local community and ensure that the benefits of the Tweed Valley Hospital project extend well beyond delivery of the hospital buildings.

This new facility will be in addition to a range of training and simulation facilities that will be delivered with the new Tweed Valley Hospital, and will support TAFE NSW health education programs over the long term.



Prototype and Simulation Suite

A **Prototype and Simulation Suite** will be constructed to verify the detailed design of key clinical spaces, such as patient bedrooms, within the new hospital during the design and construction phases. In the longer term, this facility will be operated by TAFE NSW as low-fidelity simulation space for health education and other training programs, including Enrolled Nurse and Assistant in Nursing qualifications.

The prototype spaces will be built to the same specifications as the new Tweed Valley Hospital, so that our health workforce of the future can complete their training in a simulation suite that replicates that of a brand new state-of-the-art hospital.

Prototype facilities are often temporary and demolished at the end of construction works. However, working in partnership with TAFE NSW to design, construct and operate this facility provides the opportunity for ongoing utilisation and much greater long-term benefits.



Clinical simulations help train the health workforce of the future

Skills and Employment Hub

Operated by the project's main building contractor in partnership with TAFE NSW, the **Skills and Employment Hub** will help to further develop and connect the local workforce with employment, apprenticeships and other training opportunities at the new Tweed Valley Hospital during the construction phase.

The Hub will provide a drop-in facility for community and local industry; information on training and careers in the construction industry, jobs on the Hospital project, and support in developing business capability and tendering for subcontract work packages and supply contracts. It will also enable shared industry and TAFE NSW development and delivery of training programs.

The vision for this initiative is that it will offer a fresh start for many Tweed-Byron locals, providing supportive pathways into skilled jobs and recognised qualifications.

Construction and operation of the **Tweed Valley Skills Centre** will provide an opportunity for TAFE NSW students to participate in a broad range of construction activities, with students able to learn and demonstrate their skills on a live project with a major building contractor, both onsite at TAFE NSW and on the Hospital build.

As part of the Hospital build, the main building contractor will fulfil commitments around apprenticeships and Aboriginal participation, as well as promoting diversity and increasing the number of women working in the construction industry. Health Infrastructure and TAFE NSW envisage the **Tweed Valley Skills Centre** will provide an entry point to promote these important aspects of the Hospital project.

Creating the Tweed Valley Health and Education Precinct

The **Tweed Valley Skills Centre** will be constructed in 2019, in parallel with early works on the Hospital campus. We are working towards a commencement date for construction of the Skills Centre in June 2019, with the aim for the facility to be completed and operational in late 2019 to coincide with the main works for the Hospital getting underway.

The Skills Centre is an important first step towards realising the vision of creating a new Health and Education Precinct across the Hospital and TAFE NSW campuses, and delivering an ongoing skills legacy for the Tweed-Byron region.

Such a Precinct will help facilitate educational alignment with, and expansion of, existing TAFE NSW programs in construction, nursing, allied health and other potential multidisciplinary opportunities. These opportunities will arise during both the construction and operational phases of the new Hospital.

