

South Sea Islander community consultation

Summary report, August 2019

The Tweed Valley Hospital project team is committed to ensuring current and future generations have access to, and are able to appreciate, the local history and South Sea Islander heritage that the dry stone walls represent on the Tweed Valley Hospital site.

The project team has hosted three consultation workshops with the local South Sea Islander community focused on working towards a solution for the sections of wall requiring removal. The workshops also explored how more than 80 per cent of the 750m of dry-stone walls on the site might be restored and preserved. Walls 3 and 4 and a small section of Wall 1 need to be removed as they are impacted by the approved Stage 1 Works to prepare the site for the Hospital buildings.

Following initial site tours and inspections of the walls on the new Hospital site, a third workshop was hosted on Thursday 8 August, providing an overview of the Hospital Masterplan and future development of the site, and presenting and workshopping concept proposals for how the history of the Tweed South Sea Islander community could be accessed and appreciated by current and future generations.

These concept proposals include:

- Presenting the local history and South Sea Islander heritage that the dry stone walls represent through various media as part of the Hospital's Arts and Cultural strategy
- Discussing how the walls could be reinterpreted as part a historical walk and incorporating the stones in a series of walls as part of the landscaping for the new hospital.

The project team and South Sea Islander community also explored how more than 80 per cent of the 750 metres of dry-stone walls might be restored and accessed over time.

HISTORICAL WALK

- Stories, maps, images, interpretive text etched into the paving/connecting path. An important place for local schools and community to learn about South Sea Islander history.
- Supplementary information panels / maps and seating colocated with pause points that showcase significant segments of the walls. Materiality consistent with hospital signage palette (e.g. corten steel)



The historical walk concept that was discussed at the meeting with the local South Sea Islander community

Community members asked questions about the Hospital development, the location of the walls, and whether redesign of the Hospital to avoid walls 3 and 4 had been considered.

Participants also shared the history of the South Sea Islander community in the Tweed and what the walls represented to their community.



SERIES OF WALLS

- Relocated stones used to create a series of low walls that reference the South Sea Islander history on the site
- Interpretive text / information integrated into the ground plane, located with walls
- Planting palette includes species significant to the South Sea Islander community



The series of walls concept that was discussed at the meeting with the local South Sea Islander community

State Significant Development application community consultation

Information regarding the dry-stone walls was included in a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Stage 1 State Significant Development (SSD) application.

The EIS was placed on extended public exhibition in November/December 2018 and subsequent response to submissions process that ran through until May 2019. The Stage 1 SSD Consent was granted on 11 June 2019 and all of this information is available on the NSW Department of Planning and Environment website at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/10756>.

The Tweed Valley Hospital Development

The NSW Government's \$582 million investment in the Tweed Valley Hospital Development will deliver a brand new, state-of-the-art hospital along with interim upgrades, which will meet the urgent clinical needs of the local communities in the Tweed and Byron Local Government Areas.

The project team looks forward to ongoing consultation and collaboration with the whole community on all aspects of the Tweed Valley Hospital project.

The community is encouraged to provide comment and feedback to:
tweedvalleyhospital@health.nsw.gov.au or 1800 992 643

