



**29 September 2008**

## **Royal North Shore Hospital preferred tenderer announced**

NSW Minister for Health John Della Bosca today announced that InfraShore Consortium is the preferred tenderer for the multi-million dollar Royal North Shore Hospital and Community Health Services Project.

Mr Della Bosca said Health Infrastructure was now conducting final contract negotiations with the preferred proponent with a view to finalising contractual arrangements during October.

“The Royal North Shore project is the biggest health capital works project in NSW and will deliver new acute hospital and community health facilities of outstanding quality,” Mr Della Bosca said.

“The Royal North Shore Hospital redevelopment follows a detailed review of designs and extensive consultation with clinical and health staff. The redevelopment will maintain and enhance the Hospital’s reputation as one of the nation’s leading health care facilities.

“The preferred bid for the new hospital offers an opportunity to meet the needs and expectations of patients, the community and our healthcare workforce.”

Mr Della Bosca said the partnership with the private sector would allow a level of innovation that may not otherwise have been possible.

“This private sector partnership has enabled architects and planners to draw on the best ideas from around the world and deliver an expandable design that can grow and change in response to healthcare needs.”

North Shore Ryde Health Service General Manager Ms Sue Shilbury said the Hospital community was excited about the decision.

“Royal North Shore Hospital has a long and solid tradition of providing compassionate healthcare but our buildings are ageing. This is an opportunity for us to start afresh,” she said.

Ms Shilbury said that now the preferred tenderer had been announced, the Hospital’s priority was to further consult staff and to inform the local community of the decision.

“We will begin the next round of consultation with doctors, nurses, allied health staff and other healthcare and support workers immediately,” Ms Shilbury said.

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“We have already invited several hundred staff members to this next round of meetings where they will critically review their department floor plans,” Ms Shilbury said.

“We are committed to providing them with every possible opportunity to contribute constructively to the final design of their departments because they will be the ones delivering the healthcare,” she said.

Work is expected to commence in late 2008; the community health building is expected to be completed in mid-2011 and the new main hospital building by mid-2013.

The preferred proponent InfraShore includes financiers ABN AMRO, construction company Thiess Pty Ltd and service providers Thiess Services, ISS Facility Services and Wilson Parking.

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