



## Joint venture for hospital building

NSW Health has advertised for expressions of interest from major consortia to design, construct and finance the new main hospital and community health service facilities at RNS.

As part of the PPP, the successful project company would also maintain the new facilities, and manage non-clinical support services staff at RNS.

"It is anticipated that, in the future, RNS staff involved in non-clinical support services, such as catering, maintenance, security, portering, linen services and cleaning, could work under the supervision and management of the new consortium," said Acting RNS General Manager Andrew Bott.

"They would be managed by the new company, but would remain employees of NSW Health and retain all their entitlements."

Andrew confirmed that the Area Health Service has advised unions and would continue to consult closely with staff to ensure there is a full understanding of the impact of any changes.

"We are currently in the very early stages of the process, but staff members need to be aware that there will be changes in the future," he said.

Andrew said support services staff members were understandably concerned about the security of their positions.

"It is really too early to speculate on what the composition of the new workforce might be because we do not expect anything to change for at least 18 months," he said.

"Until then, we will be consulting closely with the staff and unions, and eventually the winning consortium, to ensure that staff members are informed, prepared for the transition and well-supported throughout the process.

"It is expected that the workforce will be matched to the needs of the site and the services provided which, in the future, will be different to that provided today."

Clinical staff positions are not affected by the new arrangements.

Mr Bott has assured staff and unions that the Area will continue to provide information as it becomes available.

For more information on the PPP, please refer to the PPP Fact Sheet which will be circulated to staff via email shortly.

### Research & Education Building Question & Answer session

The Burns Bridge team will be available to answer your questions at the redevelopment noticeboard in the staff cafeteria on:

Tuesday 24 October 2006

12.00 – 1.30 and 5.00 – 6.00pm

MORE NEWS.... PAGE 2

# Research building goes to tender

Tenders have been issued for the construction of an ultra-modern new research and education facility (concept pictured right) with the capacity to accommodate up to 300 researchers.

RNS has an active program of education and a well-established research community. The campus is well-known for its 'bench to bedside' research philosophy, which provides opportunities for research with immediate and practical applications for patient care.

The research & education building will be constructed on the RNS campus as part of the \$702 million redevelopment announced by the NSW Health Minister in August 2006.

"The consolidation of research and education activities will create a dynamic environment with a greater capacity for teams to share knowledge as well as resources," said RNS Acting General Manager Andrew Bott.

The building will have its own architectural identity and discrete presence on site, but will have good connection into the new main hospital building.



There will also be an easy flow from the acute care area to the research area will for the many staff members engaged in active clinical research.

Allocations have been made for tutorial rooms, a library, a clinical training area, a computer skills and learning lab, staff and student amenities area and an administrative zone.

The research facilities will occupy the upper levels and provide a combination of laboratory and administrative space for range of research projects, with a capacity to share high-cost laboratory equipment and common support services.

The construction of the new research and education building is considered a priority because of the need to unlock the centre of the campus for the future development of the new main hospital building.

Once research and education has been consolidated into its new building, the older style buildings currently occupying the centre of the site will be demolished to make way for the new main building.

A managing contractor for research & education facility is expected to be appointed before Christmas, with construction currently scheduled for completion in mid-2008. Construction of the new main building is expected to commence shortly after that.