



The NSW Government is investing \$45.3 million to deliver modern, sustainable accommodation for health workers in three rural local health districts, Far West, Murrumbidgee and Southern NSW.

Program benefits

- Attract more health workers to rural and regional hospitals
- New, fit for purpose, self-contained accommodation
- Fully furnished, providing a safe and comfortable environment
- Spacious units with communal spaces and landscaping
- Located on hospital grounds
- Establish a community within a community allowing spaces for staff to connect with each other

Program update

The Key Worker Accommodation (KWA) program will deliver accommodation for health workers within the hospital grounds at Balranald, Broken Hill, Cooma, Finley, Leeton, Narrandera, and West Wyalong.

Hutchinson Builders has been appointed to deliver the accommodation program across six (6) sites including Broken Hill, Cooma, Leeton, Finley, Narrandera and West Wyalong.

Balranald early enabling works is underway with Joss Construction.

Next steps

Health infrastructure is working closely with each District to finalise the design of the accommodation units and their location within the hospital grounds. This includes an evaluation of heritage, environmental and community considerations.

Design works and onsite investigations are underway while relevant planning approvals are obtained for the main construction works.

FAQs

What is the Key Worker Accommodation Program?

The Key Worker Accommodation (KWA Program) is a NSW Government program that aims to provide modern short- and long-term housing accommodation to health workers in regional and rural areas across NSW due to limited supply of housing options in these areas.

How were locations prioritised?

Health Infrastructure worked closely with each of the Districts to look at a range of requirements for each hospital site to create a list of priority hospital sites. Examples of these requirements include, scale of need, type of accommodation needs, potential beds, existing demand and supply of accommodation, condition of districts own accommodation assets and staff shortages.

How many beds are at each location?

The KWA program will deliver accommodation for health workers within the hospital grounds at:

- Balranald
- Broken Hill
- Cooma
- Finley
- Leeton
- Narrandera
- West Wyalong

Unit numbers will be finalised during the design phase.

When will works commence?

Offsite construction of the accommodation units will commence in early 2024 after planning and design work has been completed. The units will be manufactured offsite and installed across the Districts starting mid-2024 and expected to become available to key workers in late 2024/early 2025.

Who will use this accommodation?

The accommodation is intended to be used for temporary or short-term stays by key healthcare workers, including fly-in fly-out health staff, specialists and students.

What has been the consultation to date?

As part of the planning and design process, there has been extensive consultation with clinicians who have experience living in key worker accommodation.

There will be opportunities to work with staff, community and stakeholders at each location to help inform interiors, artwork and landscaping opportunities to make it a home away from home.

What is included in the accommodation?

The units will be fully furnished and equipped with all the necessities including kitchens, bedrooms, ensuite bathrooms, living and outdoor areas.

How are these modules sustainable and environmentally friendly?

- The modules are fully electrified and will be 'solar ready'.
- Fixtures and fittings are selected to provide efficiency for both water and energy use.
- The modules have embedded sustainability through passive heating and cooling, natural ventilation, location and orientation, and materials selection.

How can I stay informed about the project?

The project team is committed to providing regular updates about the program at each project site via project updates, social media posts and news items.



EXAMPLE OF KEY WORKER ACCOMMODATION BEING DELIVERED AT HOSPITAL SITES.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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