



Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Planning
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Lands
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council

MEDIA RELEASE

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MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE TO DELIVER HEALTH BENEFITS AND JOBS

A new \$380 million research centre to fight obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease has been given development approval by the NSW Government.

Around 290 new medical research positions will be created and the facility will accommodate up to 1,140 staff.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, and Minister for Science and Medical Research, Jodi McKay, today visited the proposed site at the University of Sydney, Camperdown campus.

The development will be located in the north-western corner of the University campus at the junction between the University, the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPA) and St John's College.

Planning approval has been granted for:

- Construction of a single 8-storey building, plus basement levels and rooftop plant, with a total gross floor area of approximately 45,000 square metres;
- Demolition of buildings, including the University's HK Ward Gymnasium and cricket nets, and the RPA's Missenden Psychiatry Unit building;
- Subdivision to adjust lot boundaries between the University and the RPA; and
- Excavation works across the site.

This builds on the approval of a \$110 million cancer research and care facility at St Vincent's Medical Research Precinct in Darlinghurst, and the \$265 million expansion of a Neuroscience research precinct at the Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute in Randwick - announced by the NSW Government earlier this year.

Mr Kelly said this new facility will be the source of many world-leading medical breakthroughs, enabling NSW to maintain its position at the forefront of cutting-edge health research.

"In addition to the clear benefits of developing a medical research centre with the specific goal of fighting the health challenges of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease, the facility will also generate new jobs," Mr Kelly said.

"This new development will be designed to be a landmark in sustainability, achieving high benchmarks for energy efficiency, water efficiency and indoor environmental quality.

"A total of 41 conditions have been imposed to ensure the development is undertaken in a manner that is in line with the local area and the surrounding environment.

"A Statement of Heritage Impact was also undertaken as part of the Environmental Assessment to protect the established heritage significance of the University grounds."



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Mr Kelly said the development will also satisfy key *Metropolitan Strategy* objectives including:

- To promote City learning initiatives by facilitating development around research hubs;
- Build Sydney's knowledge infrastructure; and
- Providing fair access to jobs, services and educational opportunities.

Minister for Science and Medical Research, Jodi McKay, said the new facility will form an important part of the existing education and medical precinct adjacent to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

"NSW is a leader in world class medical research," Ms McKay said.

Member for Marrickville, Carmel Tebbutt, said this new facility, with strong connections to the university and the neighbouring practising hospital, will enhance NSW's research capabilities in key health areas.

"The project will also contribute directly to meeting a number of State Plan priorities," Ms Tebbutt said.

These include:

- S2 – Improved survival rates and quality of life for people with potentially fatal or chronic illness through improvements in health care;
 - S3 – Improved health through reduced obesity, smoking, illicit drug use and risk drinking; and
 - F5 – Reduced avoidable hospital admission.
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