



Work on the Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment Project started in 2022. John Holland will now commence the next phase of work.

In late February, the NSW Government, Brad Hazzard announced John Holland Group as the winning contractor and welcomed the team to the site with representatives from the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District, Health Infrastructure and Johnstaff.

Site fence

In the coming weeks, John Holland will commence site establishment works, which will include erecting a site fence around the perimeter of the existing green space, the former Nowra Park. An additional fence will be erected around the significant blackbutt tree to ensure its preservation during the construction process.

As a result, there will be no access to the park area or playground until 2026 when the redevelopment is completed.

Shoalhaven Hospital Helipad

As a result of the greenspace closure, the current helipad will be temporarily relocated to HMAS Albatross until an interim base is set up at the Rural Fire Service (RFS) Emergency Headquarters on Albatross Road, which is close to the hospital to maximise patient safety.

Several locations for the interim helipad were considered, including at HMAS Albatross and West Street Oval. After detailed investigations and planning, it was determined that the existing RFS site was the most suitable location.

The latest figures show the current Shoalhaven Hospital helipad receives about eight to nine helicopters per month and is essential in providing rapid transportation for critically ill patients in need of urgent medical care.

NSW Health has been working with Shoalhaven City Council, RFS, Ambulance NSW, hospital doctors and nearby residents throughout the planning of this relocation.

Site access

In the coming weeks a new temporary road and footpath will be built from Shoalhaven Street to the loading dock, rear of the hospital and outpatients' clinic.

Please see the map below that shows the construction zones as well as temporary road and footpath access.

From 1 June, patients will be required to access the outpatients' clinics from the main entry on Scenic Drive, or via side door B of the hospital that leads to the administration block. Additional disabled parking spaces will be available near this entry.

Signage will be installed directing people from the multi-storey car park to the closest accessible entry point. Patients accessing the outpatients' clinic are entitled to concession rates at the car park.

During the construction process there will be several changes to hospital access. The project team will provide the community with plenty of notice about access and when they will occur. Shoalhaven Hospital will continue to operate as usual.

John Holland is committed to ensuring only short periods of minimal interruption and that caring for patients remains the priority at all times.



About John Holland Group

John Holland Group has been operating for more than 70 years and is responsible for building many of Australia's most innovative projects.

The company is currently building the new Sydney Children's Hospital Stage 1 and Minderoo Children's Comprehensive Cancer Centre at Randwick.

John Holland's General Manager Building NSW/ACT Jason Vaughan, said the company was well placed to build a lasting legacy in healthcare and the local community with a future-ready workforce in place.

“As this project gets underway, we're committed to fostering local talent, boosting First Nations People participation and employing apprentices – an approach that's directly supported by the University of Wollongong with our sponsorship of Aboriginal engineering student internships,” he said.

“Local procurement is a key focus of the John Holland approach, that's why we're embedding ourselves in the community during construction while engaging local suppliers and tradespeople for this redevelopment.”

Jason said connection to country was a key component of the vision for the Shoalhaven Hospital Redevelopment.

“John Holland will support this by working with First Nations artists for project artwork and employing trainees to undertake the landscaping around the hospital,” he said.

At a recent workshop with SDMH project staff, Jason said his team was excited and privileged to be joining the project.

“We're looking forward to being part of the passion that lives in this project and making a dream a reality,” he said.

Offices on the site for John Holland workers will be established shortly and the company is investigating options for staff parking areas off site to ensure there is no impact on parking in surrounding streets.



ARTIST IMPRESSION



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CONSTRUCTION OF PRESCHOOL 29 MARCH



EDUCATORS' SITE VISIT

Shoalhaven Community Preschool update

Work on the new Shoalhaven Community Preschool is coming ahead in leaps and bounds.

A number of preschool carers and educators were taken on a site tour of the new facility so they could get a firsthand look at the construction process. With the steel structure and internal walls completed, the visit also enabled the team to get a real feel for the new layout and get excited for their future space.

The preschool is expected to be completed by mid-year.