The Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) Centre is a major health infrastructure project for Canberra and the surrounding region. The SPIRE Centre will increase the territory’s capacity to deliver acute, hospital-based health care in a modern, purpose-built facility. It will see $500 million invested in the Canberra Hospital campus.

Through funding in the 2017–18 and 2018–19 ACT Budgets, the first stages of the SPIRE project have included early planning and feasibility work.

As part of this process, ACT Health established a Steering Committee and worked closely with health service providers and key stakeholders to establish an agreed baseline from which effective, territory-wide service and infrastructure planning has been undertaken.

Features of SPIRE

The new centre will deliver:

- a boost to the number of operating theatres delivering more capacity for elective and emergency surgery
- more inpatient beds and a larger intensive care unit
- a coronary care unit for people requiring high level care for heart conditions
- state-of-the-art surgical, procedural and imaging facilities
- a significantly expanded ED, enabling capacity for specialist emergency healthcare for women and children
Location

Following extensive planning and feasibility work, SPIRE will be built at the eastern end of the hospital campus. The advice of the Steering Committee has been critical in determining the optimal location for SPIRE.

The proposed location at the eastern end of the campus will minimise disruption to existing critical care services such as the emergency department and helipad, while SPIRE is constructed.

There will be significant planning and consultation going forward as we enter into the next project development stage.

Next steps

As part of the planning and feasibility work that has been underway, ACT Health has commenced engagement with the clinical workforce on SPIRE. This will continue in 2019 as early design work progresses. This engagement will include: the ongoing oversight of a Steering Committee; the establishment of specialist user groups to oversee the design and planning of construction works such as ICT, clinical procedures, and accessibility; and ongoing communications with staff.

The project is anticipated to be completed in 2023/24.

Updates will be made available on the ACT Health website throughout the life of the project.


The Building Health Services Program

The Building Health Services Program (BHSP) is ensuring the changing health care needs of our rapidly growing community will continue to be met into the future.

The BHSP includes major works across the Territory’s health system including the critical care hub at the Canberra Hospital – the Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency Centre (SPIRE), the expansion of the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children, and the scoping study for northside hospital services.

Contacts

Further information on SPIRE and the BHSP is available on the ACT Health website.

www.health.act.gov.au/infrastructure   |   BuildingHealthServicesProgram@act.gov.au