

Media Release

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Waitākere Hospital welcomes start of construction for new ward and ICU

Today marks the first day of construction on a new 30-bed acute inpatient ward and six-bed intensive care unit (ICU) at Waitākere Hospital. This significant development is an important step towards improving healthcare services for West Aucklanders.

The \$88.91 million project, called Manaaki Hōhonu, was funded by the Government to address the critical need for more medical beds and high-acuity care capacity at Waitākere Hospital. It represents the biggest capital investment in the facility in almost 20 years.

Chief Medical Officer for Te Whatu Ora – Waitematā Dr Jonathan Christiansen says, “We are excited to see work start on these new facilities. The beginning of construction brings us one step closer to enhancing our ability to provide excellent patient care for the local community.”

The new ward and expanded ICU will help meet the projected growth of West Auckland’s population, forecast to reach nearly 353,000 residents by 2043. It also supports the Northern Regional Long Term Investment Plan by providing additional inpatient capacity.

In the past six years, Te Whatu Ora – Waitematā has continued to grow hospital and inpatient and emergency services at Waitākere Hospital to meet the needs of the West Auckland community. They have added/refurbished a new ED (total of 52 clinical treatment spaces), an integrated stroke unit, additional beds for both Childrens’ Health (11 beds) and General Medicine (15 beds) and installed two new CT scanners. An upgraded Special Care Baby Unit opened in August 2022.

“This development continues our efforts to modernise facilities and ensure we have capacity to safely manage higher volumes,” says Dr Christiansen. “Completion of Manaaki Hōhonu in 2026 will further strengthen our services for years to come.”

Hawkins Limited has been appointed as the construction contractor for Manaaki Hōhonu.



CAPTION: Artist render of external façade

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