

Accessibility a focus for new hospital

Universal Design underpins the planning and development of Fiona Stanley Hospital.

The architects and health planners have designed the Fiona Stanley Hospital – including the building design, external landscaping and links to public transport – to ensure WA's newest tertiary hospital offers excellent access for people of all ages and abilities.

What is Universal Design?

Universal Design is a framework that guides the design of places, things, information, communication and policy to ensure usability by the widest range of people in the widest range of situations – and without the need for special or separate design.

How is Universal Design incorporated into the design of Fiona Stanley Hospital?

The Fiona Stanley Hospital site will be fully accessible and, where needed, inclined walkways or ramps will link the hospital, its road network, parking, public transport facilities and nearby health, education and research facilities.

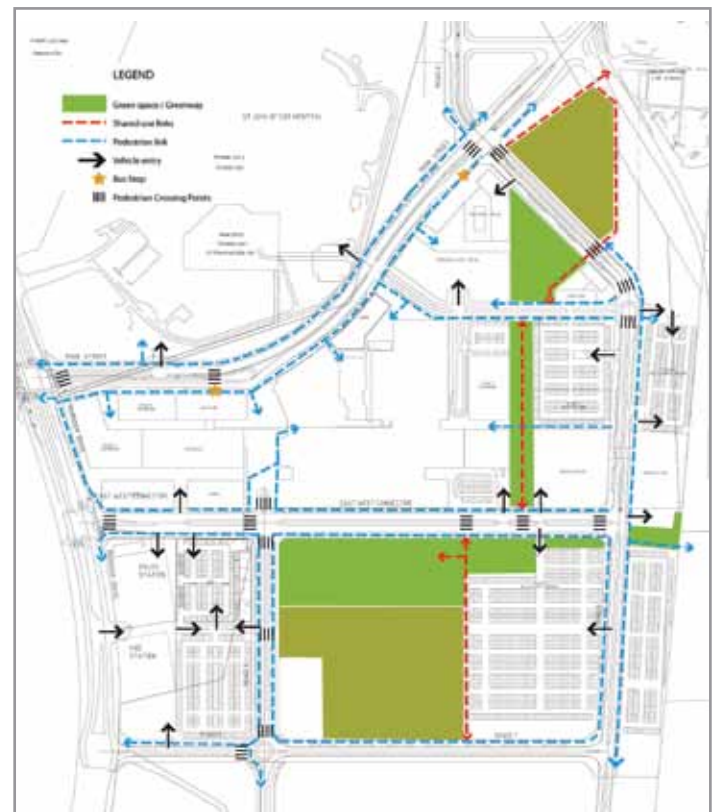
Fiona Stanley Hospital will be within short walking distance of the Murdoch bus/rail interchange. The station is fully accessible, with lifts and ramps available throughout. Street gradients, kerbing, pedestrian ramps, street finishes, shading and the like will be designed to offer an easy and enjoyable commute to the hospital, whether travelling on foot, via a mobility device or by bicycle.

Frequent bus services will depart directly from the Murdoch station to the Fiona Stanley Hospital for those who are unable or prefer not to walk.

Parking at the Fiona Stanley Hospital will include basement, ground level and multi-storey parking. Covered vehicle canopies at the main entry, Emergency Department and drop-off areas will be provided.

Inside the hospital, all levels will also be accessible by lifts, with separate lifts provided for public and patient use.

The creation of a central 'spine' in the main building will link all major areas of the hospital and facilitate clear and easy access.



The design of the Fiona Stanley Hospital will also offer:

- good wayfinding – which includes architectural or design elements that can help orientate people;
- a design that considers the natural flow or movement of people in buildings and public areas; and
- clear, well-designed signage throughout the hospital and around the site.

This will be supported by high levels of lighting, contrasting colours for people with low vision, coloured line markings for wayfinding, information kiosks, and written information to be provided in alternative formats such as Braille.

Who is being consulted?

An independent disability access consultant is providing ongoing input and feedback into the design and planning of the Fiona Stanley Hospital.

There has also been regular consultation for more than three years with a wide range of community members, government, health industry representatives, clinicians, staff, patients and Non Governmental Organisations.

More than 60 Non-Government Organisations, including many in the disability sector, were directly involved in the design of the Fiona Stanley Hospital through participation in workshops and focus groups, surveys and other forums.

The Disability Services Commission and other related agencies were also consulted throughout the design and planning process.

Legislative codes and standards are used as reference documents during the design process.

For more information

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