

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Helicopter Landing Site – Temporary Relocation

#### Why is the helipad being relocated?

The Helicopter Landing Site at RPA Hospital will be relocated due to the upcoming construction activities that will take place on the east campus to deliver the \$750m RPA Hospital Redevelopment. Once redevelopment works are underway on RPA's east campus, the required construction tower cranes for these works will make safe access to the existing helipad not possible. The relocation will ensure the safety of patients, staff, locals, and construction workers.

#### Why is the continued helipad service needed?

The continued operation of a Helicopter Landing Site during the RPA redevelopment is crucial to RPA's role as a tertiary and quaternary referral hospital providing life-saving specialised ICU, Surgical and Interventional care to patients from the Sydney Metropolitan area and other parts of NSW, especially Western NSW.

Transfer to RPA by helicopter is the safest transport method for patients referred to RPA for time-critical care including specialised cardio-thoracic support, complex levels of intensive care and the advanced surgical and interventional treatment available at RPA. The rapid transfer of newborn babies requiring Neonatal Intensive care (NICU) is another important reason for maintaining access to RPA by the NETS helicopter service.

As the NSW centre for liver transplantation, one of the largest obstetric and NICU services and a major referral centre for cardio-thoracic, neurosurgical, orthopaedic, renal transplantation and advanced gastrointestinal surgery, RPA needs to retain the capacity to receive patients for whom transfer by helicopter provides the safest and most effective option.

#### Is it temporary?

The relocation of the helipad is temporary and will operate for the duration of construction that limits access to the existing helipad.

#### Where is the helipad being relocated to?

The helipad will be temporarily relocated to the roof of a multi-storey carpark located off Hospital Road and Grose Street, to the south of the Queen Mary Building.

#### How long will the helipad be here for?

The temporary helipad landing site will be operational for the duration that the tower cranes are in place for the main works (approximately 24 months from main works commencement).

#### Will there be many car spaces temporarily closed?

Due to the relocation of the helipad, a number of car spaces will be closed on the top floor of the car park. However, as planning progresses strategies are being reviewed to reduce the impact on car parking. Active management will be in place across the RPA campus to ensure ease of access for those driving to the site through the period of construction of the RPA Redevelopment.

#### When operational, how noisy will it be for nearby residents?

There will be noise associated with helicopter transport of patients at times for nearby residents.

#### Will this impact local plants, trees, and animals?

The helipad relocation will cause little disturbance to plants, trees, and animals in the area.

#### How often will helicopters land at the temporary helipad?

Based on previous activity, there will be around 10 landings each month.

#### Will helicopters land at night?

Yes, helicopters will land at any time during the day or night.

#### Will the temporary helipad relocation impact patient care?

Significant planning and consultation is taking place to make sure that RPA Hospital's high standards for delivery of patient care will not be affected by the relocation.

#### When will work to establish the temporary helipad start?

Works will start in approximately mid-2023 to have the helipad relocated and operational by early 2024.

#### What work will be done to establish the temporary helipad?

Establishing the temporary helipad will involve structural works on top of the carpark, installation of lights and a patient transfer elevator, and removal of obstructions at the site.

### **How are stakeholders and the community kept informed about the helipad relocation?**

Stakeholders and the community will be kept informed about the RPA helipad relocation:

- Via the project website
- Emailing information through our distribution list
- Doorknocks
- Letterbox drops
- Community and staff information sessions

### **Where can I find out more information?**

You can check the RPA Redevelopment website for further information or email the Redevelopment team at [rparedevelopment@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rparedevelopment@health.nsw.gov.au)

## **How can I contact the project team?**

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact our project team at the details below.

**Email:** [rparedevelopment@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rparedevelopment@health.nsw.gov.au) | **Website:** [www.rparedevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rparedevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au)