

New WCH Task Force

The South Australian Government has established a high-level taskforce to drive the co-location of a new Women's and Children's Hospital (WCH) with the Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH).

Jim Birch, a former Chief Executive Officer of the Women's and Children's Hospital and the SA Health Department has been appointed to lead the task force, which will guide the planning for a new Women's and Children's Hospital to be co-located with the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Mr Birch will chair the 15-person taskforce, which will also include Lindsey Gough, CEO of the Women's and Children's Health Network, SA Health Deputy Chief Executive Lynne Cowan and Executive Director of Infrastructure Brendan Hewitt. Clinicians will make up the majority of members of the task force, with four representatives from WCHN and one each from the other Local Health Networks (LHNs). Representatives from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI), Renewal SA and Treasury will also sit on the task force.

The clinical representatives will be drawn from nominations from the LHNs and relevant professional colleges and representative employee organisations.

The task force will identify the capital cost of the project, the number of inpatient beds; identify the requirement for associated clinical and non-clinical service delivery areas and the state-wide models of care required to support the hospital's day-to-day operations.