

Department of Health and Human Services

SOUTHERN TASMANIA AREA HEALTH SERVICE

GPO Box 125, HOBART TAS 7001, Australia



Development of an Integrated Care Centre - Kingston

The Southern Tasmania Area Health Service (STAHS) is commencing work on the development of an Integrated Care Centre (ICC). The Centre will be located in Kingston and service the Kingborough and Huon Valley Municipalities.

As part of this work we will be producing a regular Fact Sheet to keep the community informed about the ICC, the first of which is enclosed. The Fact Sheet will also be available at locations within your local community, such as your local Community Health Centre.

If you would like further information about the ICC please contact Susan Powell:
susan.powell@dhhs.tas.gov.au or 6212 2619.

We will also be making information available at our web address:
www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/future_health/kingborough_integrated_care_centre_icc

We look forward to working with the community as we develop this new service.



Sally Williams
Director
STAHS ICC Program

21 December 2010



Kingborough Integrated Care Centre

Project Fact Sheet – November 2010

No. 1

The Department of Health and Human Services has commenced planning for a new health facility which will be built in Kingston to service the needs of the Kingborough and Huon Valley communities. The State Government has committed \$6.5 million to date for this development.

The Kingborough Integrated Care Centre (or ICC) will replace the existing Kingston Community Health Centre. It will be owned and operated by the State Government. Discussions are currently underway to secure a building site for the ICC.

New service model

The new ICC is not just a new building. Health services need to respond to the changing age profile of our communities and the fact that there are now more people with chronic diseases (e.g. heart disease, diabetes) and we have an opportunity to look at how we best provide services to meet health needs.

Part of a network of services

The Integrated Care Centres are being developed as part of Tasmania's Health Plan. Centres are being developed in Clarence, Launceston and Glenorchy. Each ICC will have a different mix of services to reflect local community needs and other services available locally.

Role of the new ICC

Within the ICC the health professionals will work together to provide a new model of care. There will be an increased focus on disease prevention and early detection and treatment.

The Kingborough ICC will *not* have general practitioners located within it; however, it will work in partnership with local general practitioners to provide the best possible care for residents and to bring additional services to the local community (e.g. some services now only available at the Royal Hobart Hospital).

The Centre will also undertake teaching, training and research so we can train the health professionals of the future and encourage them to work in the local community.

Benefits of the new service

The new ICC will improve what is currently available by providing:

- Better facilities for delivering high quality health care services
- Capacity for more service providers at the Centre and provision of facilities for visiting services and groups
- Some outpatient clinics that can be offered locally so that residents do not have to travel to the Royal Hobart Hospital for these services.
- New ways of coordinating care, particularly for people with complex health conditions which require a number of health professionals to be involved.

The new ICC will *not* address all of the community health needs in Kingborough and Huon Valley Local Government Areas but it will provide greater service capacity in the short term and some new services.



Other Community Health Centres will continue to operate and outreach services will continue

The other Community Health Centres in Kingborough and Huon Valley Local Government areas (e.g. Cygnet, Huonville, and Bruny Island) will continue to operate in conjunction with the new ICC.

We recognise that many residents of Kingborough and Huon Valley municipalities travel regularly to Kingston to shop or access other services so it does function as a 'service hub'. The ICC would provide a convenient alternative for some people who currently have to travel to the Royal Hobart Hospital to access some clinics or services (e.g. wound care).

Planning process to date

Preliminary work is underway to identify a possible site and to engage architects for the project.

The new service model will be developed taking into account:

- Data on service use, health conditions and demographics
- The input of existing staff and private health care professionals
- The funding available
- Community input about health needs.

A service planning study was conducted in 2009 to identify the type of services that may be offered through the new centre. Further work is now underway to refine this information.

This will involve workshops with staff, consultations with other local service providers (e.g. general practitioners, allied health professionals). Information already available about community needs is also being considered.

Recently we have met with local general practitioners in the community and also conducted a workshop with services currently

working from the Kingston Community Health Centre. These are the first in a series of meetings and forums that will occur as we work to develop the new service model.

Community forums for the broader community will be held in the near future to provide information about progress on the project and gain further input from the community.

Articles will be written for local community newspapers to inform those who are not part of community groups or other organisations.

Further information

If you require further information about the project please contact the project team, email susan.powell@dhhs.tas.gov.au or phone 6212 2619.

You can also visit our website at www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/future_health/kingborough_integrated_care_centre_icc

Do you wish to receive these Fact Sheets?

You will have received this fact sheet because the project team thinks it is important to provide information about the project to a wide range of community groups, organisations and health professionals.

- **If you do not wish to receive these fact sheets** please let us know on the contact details noted above and your group/organisation/name will be removed from this list.
- If you know of other groups or individuals who may wish to be informed about the project please let us know and they can be added to the circulation list and/or included in invitations to community forums.

If you have received this fact sheet in the mail but would prefer it via email, please advise Laura Cragg, 6212 2608, email laura.cragg@dhhs.tas.gov.au