



Lara Giddings, MHA

Minister for Health and Human Services

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New Royal a Unique Opportunity for Environmentally Sustainable Design

A firm on the cutting edge of environmentally sustainable design (ESD) has been recruited to assist in the masterplanning of the new Royal Hobart Hospital.

The Minister for Health and Human Services, Lara Giddings, said the new hospital project is a unique opportunity to incorporate ESD principles - such as energy efficiency, the reduction of greenhouse gas emission, indoor environment quality and waste minimisation - into a major public facility from the very beginning.

"A major focus of the New Royal Project is to maximise sustainability and efficiency and ensure a comfortable and productive working environment," Ms Giddings said.

"The ESD advice for the new hospital project will be provided by a partnership made up of Tasmanian firm Kingston & Associates and leading Australian firm Umow Lai Environment Consulting Engineers.

"Together, Kingston and Umow Lai will work closely with the architects, engineers and other specialists to encourage ESD aspects to be incorporated throughout the Masterplanning process."

Ms Giddings said the team had extensive experience in sustainable health care design as well as medical research facilities.

"Umow Lai has specific expertise in highly innovative design approaches for teaching hospital environments, which is particularly relevant to the RHH, as the State's major teaching and referral hospital.

"ESD should be an important component of any building development in the 21st century and it will be a crucial part of the biggest project to be undertaken by any Tasmanian Government.

"I'm delighted with the direction the New Royal project is taking in environmentally sustainable design and I look forward to seeing the progress over the coming year," Ms Giddings said.

Some of the health facilities Umow Lai has worked on include:

- the **Peter MacCallum and Parkville Cancer** precinct redevelopment in Melbourne;
- the **New Fiona Stanley Hospital** in Perth;
- **Eastern Mental Health Redevelopment** – Box Hill, Victoria. This project set a new benchmark for the introduction of innovative sustainable design in an intensive health care environment. ESD initiatives included: active chilled

beams, which use water to cool air at ceiling level; rainwater collection and reuse; 100% outside air ventilation systems; and high internal daylight levels.

- **Western Health Strategic Capital Redevelopment.** Masterplan and Feasibility Studies for full redevelopment of Sunshine Hospital, Western Hospital and Williamston Hospital. ESD initiatives included: Aquifer Thermal Energy Storage, which stores heat and cold energy for the purpose of heating and cooling buildings, and; including integrated photovoltaics, using sunlight for energy.

Further information: Andrew Rhodes: 6233 2757 or 0412 821 274