



Big plans for Whangarei Hospital

Northland District Health Board CEO Karen Roach has announced the appointment of the principal consultants for a multi-million dollar redevelopment programme at Whangarei Hospital.

The DHB was adopting a long-term approach to acute health care provision through the district's main hospital, she said, the proposed redevelopment having been approved by the Ministers of Health and Finance in May last year.

The first stage will include the construction of a new 25-bed mental health in-patient unit, the relocation of key sup-

port services and demolition of buildings in preparation of the next stage of construction. Stage I will cost \$25.11 million.

Ms Roach said the selection of principal consultants had been based on a criteria such as technical competence, knowledge of the district health board, and, very importantly, demonstrated ability to service the project.

"As custodians of Whangarei Hospital for the Northland community, we want our buildings to be not only fit for their purpose but also ensure they reflect the uniqueness of Northland," she said.

The principal consultants will be RDT Pacific (project manager), Fitness Fleming Architects and Rider Levett Bucknall (quantity surveyors).

The first design stage was now near completion, and preliminary design work for the next stage would be undertaken early next year.

The next steps in the project will be calling for expressions of interest and requests for tenders for contractors, with work likely to start in September. The mental health unit should be completed by the end of next year.



LEADING THE major redevelopment of Whangarei Hospital are, from the left, project manager David Prentice (RDT Pacific), architect and health planner Wally Fitness (Fitness Fleming Architects), Northland DHB chairman Tony Norman and CEO Karen Roach.

Photo: Northland DHB