
Strategy



Future Health: Guiding the next decade of care in NSW 2022-2032

Future Health is NSW Health's strategic roadmap.

Future Health positions our health system to meet the needs of our patients, community and workforce over the next decade, while adapting to and addressing the demands and challenges facing our system.

Our NSW Health vision, as well as the strategic outcomes and key objectives of Future Health (see page 15), has been informed by the experiences and viewpoints of the people who work in, and who interact with, our health system.

Throughout the 2022-23 financial year, we have focused on implementing Future Health by developing action plans and a measurement and governance framework to guide our approach.



Our system's challenges

Health is expected to remain the largest category of recurrent state spending. NSW Health spends more than \$30 billion on healthcare services in NSW:

- This spend is largely concentrated in hospitals, with 85% of spend on outpatient, ambulatory, emergency, inpatient and sub-acute/rehabilitation care.
- Prevention and promotion currently account for 10% of NSW Health expenditure.
- The remainder, or about 5%, is invested in community or other care settings.

This distribution of cost reflects the historic hospital-focused approach to healthcare, and has been an appropriate model for decades, given traditional patient needs and methods of service delivery.

The burden of disease in the community that the NSW Health system faces now and will continue to experience in coming decades, requires a different approach. A national focus on keeping people healthy and well, and effective management of chronic conditions is needed to reduce demand for hospital care and keep health spending sustainable, while maintaining optimal health outcomes. This will need to be complemented by greater integration with primary care and non-government organisations.

Strategic outcomes and key objectives



Patients and carers have positive experiences and outcomes that matter

People have more control over their own health, enabling them to make decisions about their care that will achieve the outcomes that matter most to them.

- 1.1 **Partner with patients and communities** to make decisions about their own care
- 1.2 **Bring kindness and compassion** into the delivery of personalised and culturally safe care
- 1.3 **Drive greater health literacy** and access to information
- 1.4 **Partner with consumers** in co-design and implementation of models of care



Our staff are engaged and well supported

Staff are supported to deliver safe reliable person-centred care driving the best outcomes and experiences.

- 4.1 **Build positive work environments** that bring out the best in everyone
- 4.2 **Strengthen diversity** in our workforce and decision-making
- 4.3 **Empower staff to work to their full potential** around the future care needs
- 4.4 **Equip our people with the skills and capabilities** to be an agile, responsive workforce
- 4.5 **Attract and retain skilled people** who put patients first
- 4.6 **Unlock the ingenuity of our staff** to build work practices for the future



Safe care is delivered across all settings

Safe, high quality reliable care is delivered by us and our partners in a sustainable and personalised way, within our hospitals, in communities, at home and virtually.

- 2.1 **Deliver safe, high quality reliable care** for patients in hospital and other settings
- 2.2 **Deliver more services** in the home, community and virtual settings
- 2.3 **Connect with partners** to deliver integrated care services
- 2.4 **Strengthen equitable outcomes and access** for rural, regional and priority populations
- 2.5 **Align infrastructure and service planning** around future care needs



Research and innovation, and digital advances inform service delivery

Clinical service delivery continues to transform through health and medical research, digital technologies, and data analytics.

- 5.1 **Advance and translate research and innovation** with institutions, industry partners and patients
- 5.2 **Ensure health data and information** is high quality, integrated, accessible and utilised
- 5.3 **Enable targeted evidence-based healthcare** through precision medicine
- 5.4 **Accelerate digital investments** in systems, infrastructure, security and intelligence



People are healthy and well

Investment is made in keeping people healthy to prevent ill health and tackle health inequality in our communities.

- 3.1 **Prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover** from pandemic and other threats to population health
- 3.2 **Get the best start in life** from conception through to age five
- 3.3 **Make progress towards zero suicides** recognising the devastating impact on society
- 3.4 **Support healthy ageing** ensuring people can live more years in full health and independently at home
- 3.5 **Close the gap** by prioritising care and programs for Aboriginal people
- 3.6 **Support mental health and wellbeing** for our whole community
- 3.7 **Partner to address the social determinants of ill health** in our communities
- 3.8 **Invest in wellness, prevention and early detection**, which includes reducing the harmful use of drugs and alcohol, supporting healthy behaviours, and increasing our focus on prevention and early detection



The health system is managed sustainably

The health system is managed with an outcomes-focused lens to deliver a financially and environmentally sustainable future.

- 6.1 **Drive value-based healthcare** that prioritises outcomes and collaboration
- 6.2 **Commit to an environmentally sustainable footprint** for future healthcare
- 6.3 **Adapt performance measurement and funding models** to targeted outcomes
- 6.4 **Align our governance and leaders** to support the system and deliver the outcomes of Future Health

NSW Regional Health Strategic Plan 2022-2032



Guiding health services that understand, and celebrate, the diverse and unique nature of regional communities

The NSW Regional Health Strategic Plan was developed to align with and support the whole of NSW Health strategy Future Health 2022-2032, while addressing issues that are specific to regional, rural and remote communities.

NSW Health is committed to ensuring that people living in regional, rural and remote NSW can access high quality, timely healthcare and have excellent patient experiences and optimal health outcomes.

As a blueprint for the provision of health services over the next decade, the NSW Regional Health Strategic Plan 2022-2032 outlines key priority areas for action including strengthening our regional health workforce, enabling better access to health services, fostering improved partnerships and harnessing innovation to support a sustainable health system.

The plan aims to deliver improved outcomes for people living in regional, rural, and remote NSW through the effective use of the resources and networks of NSW Health and through collaboration with our communities and all our partners in care.

Regional NSW encompasses all regional, rural and remote areas of NSW. It includes areas within the regional and rural local health districts:

- Central Coast
- Far West
- Hunter New England
- Illawarra Shoalhaven
- Mid North Coast
- Murrumbidgee
- Northern NSW
- Southern NSW
- Western NSW

The plan is also supported by the metropolitan local health districts and by the specialty health networks which have patients in many regional locations.