

Community *facts facts facts facts* Care Unit

What is a community care unit?

A community care unit is an accommodation facility for mental health patients in the recovery phase of their rehabilitation who require more support than their family can provide.

Where exactly will the CCU be located?

The CCU will be located on the corner of Old Cleveland Road and Baragoola St, Coorparoo replacing three individual house blocks. The main entrance is off Baragoola st. The eastern busway tunnel begins where the CCU is located.

How big is the complex?

The CCU is a set of 20 one-bedroom villas with some common rooms and lower ground parking facilities. See the website for a proposed diagram.

What type of patients will be staying at the CCU?

Mental health patients who are not acutely unwell and who are readjusting to living in a social setting are applicable to the CCU environment. These patients could be male, female, teenagers, mothers, fathers, grandparents, employed, unemployed, skilled or unskilled. It depends on their home situation and how advanced they are through their individual rehabilitation.

Is it safe to locate the CCU at the location in Coorparoo?

It is perfectly safe to locate the CCU within the community as the residents are not acutely unwell with a psychiatric illness. They are in the recovery phase of their rehabilitation which requires interaction in a social setting and a move toward independence.

Will businesses be affected by the CCU?

Some businesses may be positively influenced by the unit. The architectural design of the facility will improve the aesthetic appeal of the street and businesses providing food and some services will find that they will get increased patronage from the CCU as has occurred with similar facilities interstate.

Will residents be affected by the CCU?

The CCU will be similar to all manner of unit complexes in that it will have a variety of people who reside there from all walks of life. Coorparoo is densely populated by unit blocks so the CCU fits with the current structure of the suburb.

What type of illnesses are the residents of the CCU recovering from?

The CCU is not specific to any type of mental illness but more so focussed on individual patient rehabilitation and social interaction with the necessary 24 hour clinical support.

How is the 24 hour support provided?

The CCU is staffed by a clinician 24 hours a day to provide clinical assistance with individual medications, group meetings, advice and direction, independent living education, and clinical risk analysis to prevent the resident patient relapsing.

What security is provided?

Similar to any accommodation facility, police, fire and ambulance are available by calling 000. The presence of the clinical support at the CCU means that additional assistance is available in the event of any issues. This role also has direct access to the PA Hospital Emergency Department and mental health teams as well as a regular communication with Emergency Services to ensure the smooth running of the facility.

Are there other facilities like this already operating?

There are 2 of these types of facilities in Brisbane; Sunset Villas at Herston, and Pine Rivers Community Care Unit, as well as a number throughout Australia.

If you would like to know more about the Coorparoo Community Care Unit, please refer to the website: www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital