

New Tasmanian Youth Justice Facility

Masterplan
May 2025

New Tasmanian Youth Justice Facility

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The images included in this document are artistic impressions intended to provide a conceptual representation of the proposed design. They are for illustrative purposes only and do not depict final design details, materials, or construction outcomes. Elements such as landscaping, colours, and architectural features may change as the project progresses through detailed design and consultation. These impressions should not be relied upon as exact representations of the completed facility.



Acknowledgement of Victim Survivors

The Tasmanian Government acknowledges the trauma that continues to affect people with lived experience of child abuse. We are committed to being sensitive to this trauma as we use the learnings from past wrongs to protect the rights of current and future generations of children and young people and keep them safe from harm.

Acknowledgement of Country

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, we acknowledge and pay our respects to Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the traditional owners of the land. We recognise Tasmanian Aboriginal people's continuing connection to Land, Sea, Waterways, Sky and Culture and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

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Executive Summary



Executive Summary

The Tasmanian Government is committed to closing the Ashley Youth Detention Centre (AYDC) and replacing it with a new secure detention facility that promotes the development of trusting and therapeutic relationships between staff and children and young people.

The purpose of the new Tasmanian Youth Justice Facility (the Facility) is to provide:

- A safe, secure and rehabilitative facility for children and young people where healing and wellbeing is the primary focus.
- An environment where children and young people are supported to address their offending behaviour and successfully return to be part of the community and live bright lives and positive futures.
- An environment where children, young people, staff and visitors feel safe and supported.
- The community with confidence that children and young people in detention are in a safe, purpose-built facility that provides a high standard of care and rehabilitation support.

The Facility will be built at 466 Brighton Road, Pontville, with access to the site provided off Rifle Range Road. Rifle Range Road will be upgraded to support this use.

The Facility will provide an environment where children and young people experience the highest standards of child centred, rights-based and therapeutic care, where they are provided with education, services and opportunities that support them to enhance connections and return successfully to community.

The Facility will have a non-institutional feel and be low-lying in the landscape. A 'Building as Perimeter' model has been adopted, which means views from within the buildings and houses in the Facility will have clear sight lines to the surrounding rural land and the hills forming the valley in which it sits.

The large site (~32ha) allows the Facility to sit approximately 150m away from surrounding uses. It is expected that the open space around the Facility will continue to be used as horse grazing land, providing further opportunity for windows from the facility to look directly out to the landscape.

The design of the Facility is being guided by a Model of Care which adopts evidence-based trauma-informed principles to provide a therapeutic environment that acknowledges the trauma histories that exist for many of the young people in the youth justice system.

The safety, both physical and psychological, of children and young people, staff and neighbours will be at the forefront as the design for the Facility progresses.

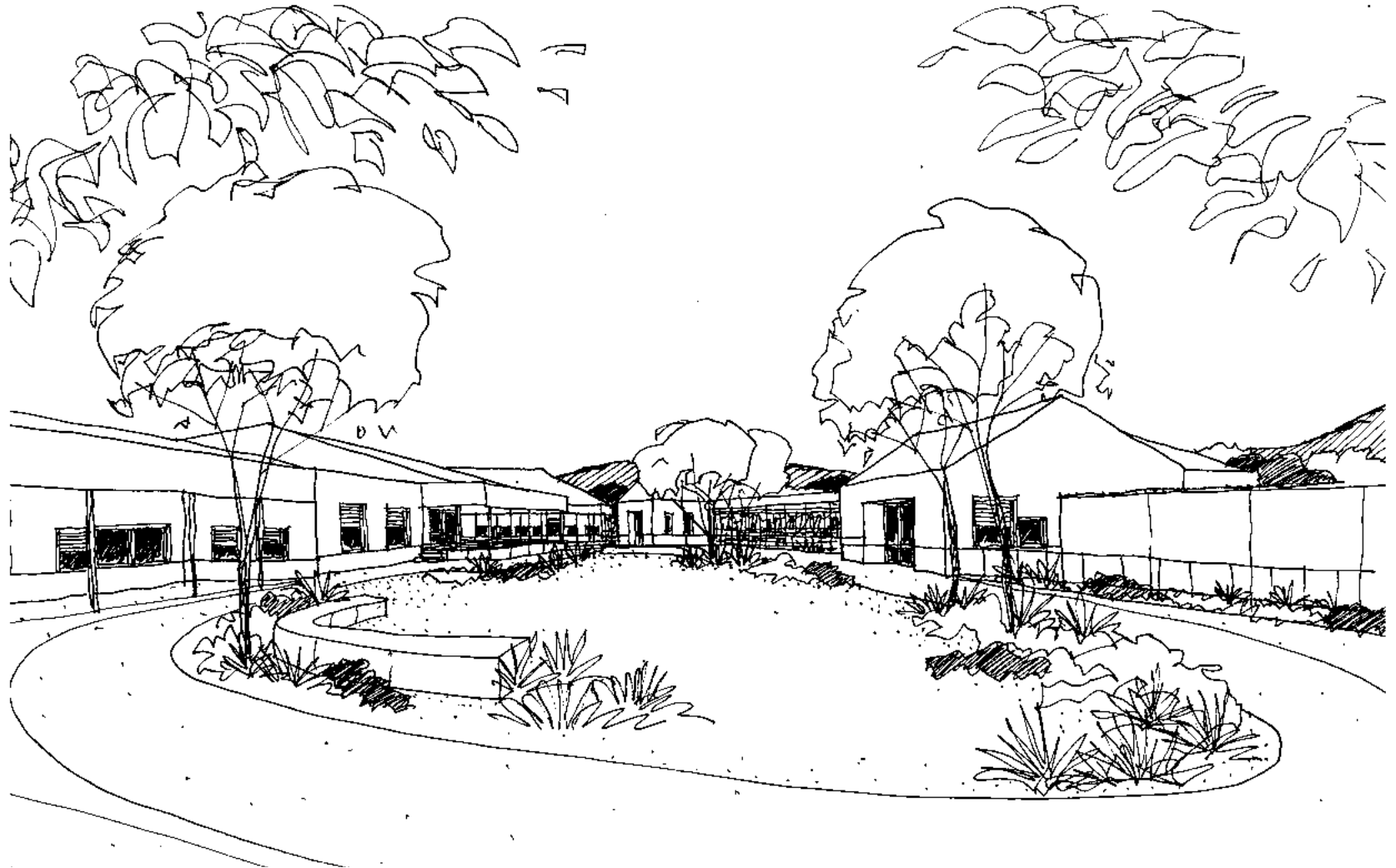
The masterplan delivers:

- Sixteen residential beds, plus two treatment beds in the health centre and two orientation beds in the admissions area (20 in total). The sixteen residential beds will be delivered in two four-bed houses, two three-bed houses and two single bed studios (for transition of care or individual specialised care).
- A health centre providing health and mental health support.
- Education and outdoor recreation facilities.
- A cultural centre and garden, which will provide greater opportunity for connection to family, community and country.

The site will be protected by both physical and electronic security systems.

Adelaide design studio Grieve Gillett Architects, in association with X-Squared Architects (Hobart) and Guymer Bailey Architects (Melbourne), have been engaged to provide full architectural design services for the Facility. They have assembled a team of specialist subconsultants from both Hobart and interstate, providing services and structural / civil engineering, AV design, security engineering, landscape architecture and wayfinding.

Introduction



View of the outdoor space between the visitors building (left) and the houses on the perimeter of the site (right)

Introduction

The Commission of Inquiry into the *Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings* (COI) found that there are high rates of sexual abuse for children and young people in detention, making among the most vulnerable in our community to this abuse.

Children and young people in detention have often experienced trauma, maltreatment and significant unmet developmental needs, all of which are risk factors for becoming victims of sexual abuse.

There is an over-representation of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and young people in detention who have experienced heightened vulnerability because of the impacts of intergenerational trauma stemming from the legacy of colonisation.

There is also an over-representation of children and young people with disabilities in detention, including those who are neurodiverse.

The COI recommended that the Ashley Youth Detention Centre be closed as soon as possible and be replaced with a small, homelike facility that incorporates design features that reflect best practice international youth detention facilities.

The COI recommended that the facility:

- promotes the development of trusting and therapeutic relationships between staff and children and young people.
- facilitates and enhances trauma-informed, therapeutic interventions for children and young people.
- minimises stigma to children and young people.
- facilitates and promotes connections between children and young people, and their families and communities.
- is co-designed with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities and includes culturally enriching environments for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and young people to promote connection to family, community and Country.

- protects children and young people against the risks of child sexual abuse (including harmful sexual behaviours) – for example, by enabling line-of-sight supervision as far as possible, without infringing on children and young people's privacy.
- is culturally safe for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children and young people.

The masterplan is aligned to the recommendations of the COI and has been informed by advice received from the Youth Justice Reform Expert Panel, Youth Justice Community Advisory Group and preliminary input from key stakeholders.

In parallel to the design of the Facility a Model of Care is being developed to define the way services will be delivered. The Model of Care outlines the operating philosophy of the new facility, that guides the way children and young people are cared for, and the organisational framework.

Model of Care

What is the Model of Care?

Designing and building the right physical environment is closely informed by what care should look like for children and young people. Being clear on the way services, interventions, learning and healthcare will happen, and the way we want these to be experienced, helps us understand how the physical buildings, facilities and spaces should be designed.

A model of care is being developed, and the following section describes what this is and the core principles within it.

The Model of Care:

- **underpins the service** provided by Tasmanian Youth Justice Services-Detention
- **guides how youth justice detention will be delivered** for children and young people in detention
- provides **clarity, focus, understanding, language and outcomes**
- is **informed by the lived experiences** of those detained as **children and young people, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and community voices**, key stakeholders, and national and international **best practice evidence**.

The Model of Care outlines the purpose for the detention centre and includes a vision along with eight principles underpinning the model. These make up the Operating Philosophy for the Facility.

The vision for the Model of Care is

“To enable an environment where children and young people experience the highest standards of child centred rights-based and therapeutic care and education, services and opportunities, supporting them to enhance connections and return and remain successfully in the community.”

The eight principles underpinning the model are:

1. Child centred and rights-based
2. Enduring connections
3. Culturally safe and connected
4. Safety and wellbeing of young people
5. Therapeutic
6. Trauma transformative
7. Staff support and wellbeing
8. Continuity and throughcare

How these principles apply to young people and the commitments made by adults to those young people are outlined in the table on the following pages.

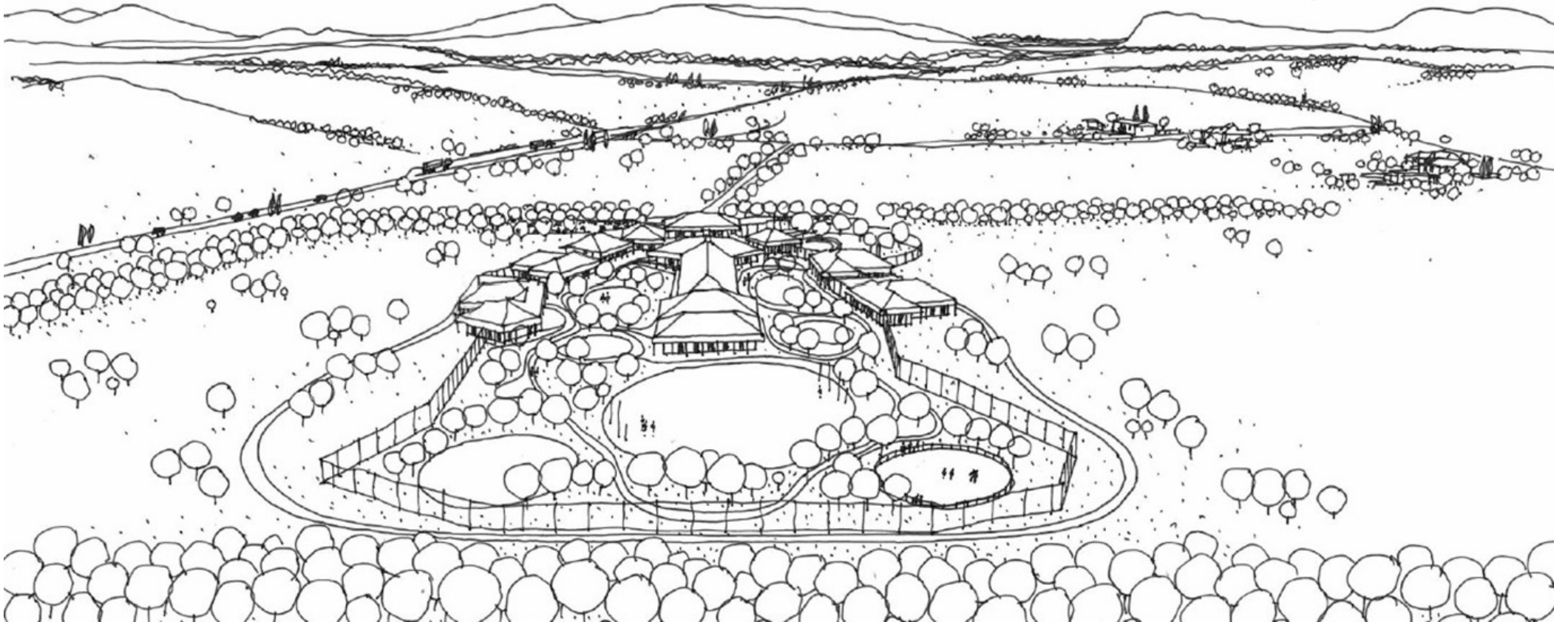
Operating Philosophy Principles

# Principles	Description Adult commitments to children and young people	Child and Young Person version	What this means for me, as a child or young person
1. Child centred and rights-based	We meet the needs and uphold the rights of all children and young people.	I understand my rights, have a say in decisions that affect me, and my needs are met.	My rights matter and I can expect that adults uphold my rights. I can expect to have my needs met, be included and supported to participate, and my views are taken seriously.
2. Enduring connections	We support the young person to stay connected with people who matter to them. We form and build partnerships that help the young person.	I can keep and grow connections with people who matter to me.	I am connected with people who help me and have got my back.
3. Culturally safe and connected	We support children and young people to be themselves and to connect with their culture(s) and community.	I feel safe to be me and can connect with the culture(s) that matter(s) to me.	I feel respected and valued to identify with who I am. I have choices in how I connect with my people, stories, and places.
4. Safety and wellbeing of young people	We commit to safety through consistency and fairness in our care and responses to children and young people. We provide routines and expectations that support children and young people to feel safe and be well.	I am and feel safe and well.	I can rely on consistent and fair responses from adults. I know and understand the routines, rhythms, and rituals of my environment. I trust that my needs and wellbeing are top priorities.

Operating Philosophy Principles

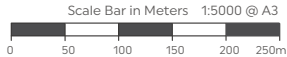
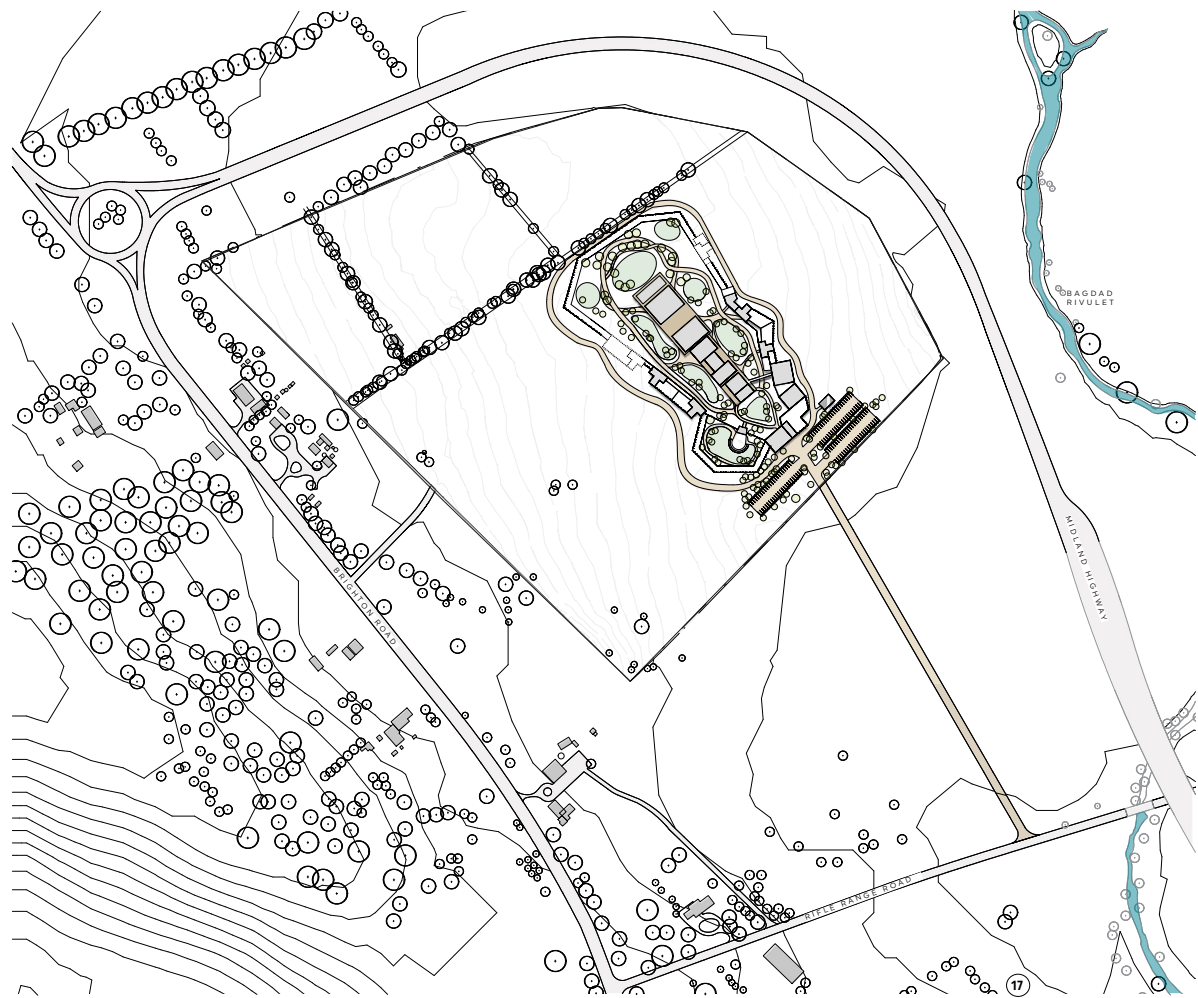
5. Therapeutic	We are committed to providing care that is supportive and healing so that children and young people recover, develop and sustain growth	I feel supported to heal and to make lasting changes.	<p>The adults know and understand me.</p> <p>I have a say in my care planning. It is led by me and is about me, my wishes, views and needs.</p> <p>I have safe and good relationships with family, friends and adults caring for me</p>
6. Trauma Transformative	We understand the impacts of trauma and are committed to responding to children and young people in predictable, consistent and safe ways	I feel understood and know that the adults will keep me safe, even when my behaviour is difficult	I am being supported to better understand myself and to develop positive social skills, along with different behaviours that help me stay out of trouble with the law
7. Staff support and wellbeing	<p>We commit to supporting our workers and keeping them safe.</p> <p>We provide our workers with the skills, knowledge and environment they need to maintain their wellbeing and keep them safe.</p>	I experience positive relationships with the people who care for me. They are kind, understanding and calm, and I can trust them. They know how to keep me safe	<p>I can see that the people caring for me, care about me, notice my strengths and support me to be the best I can be.</p> <p>I can trust them and see that they hang out and hang in with me and are fair, calm and fun with children and young people.</p>
8. Continuity and throughcare	We provide children and young people with continuity of relationships and services throughout their journey, including on return to their family and community.	I know that people make sure I have important relationships and supports that will continue to meet my needs	I am connected and reconnected with people and the help I need, including when I return to my family and community.

The Masterplan



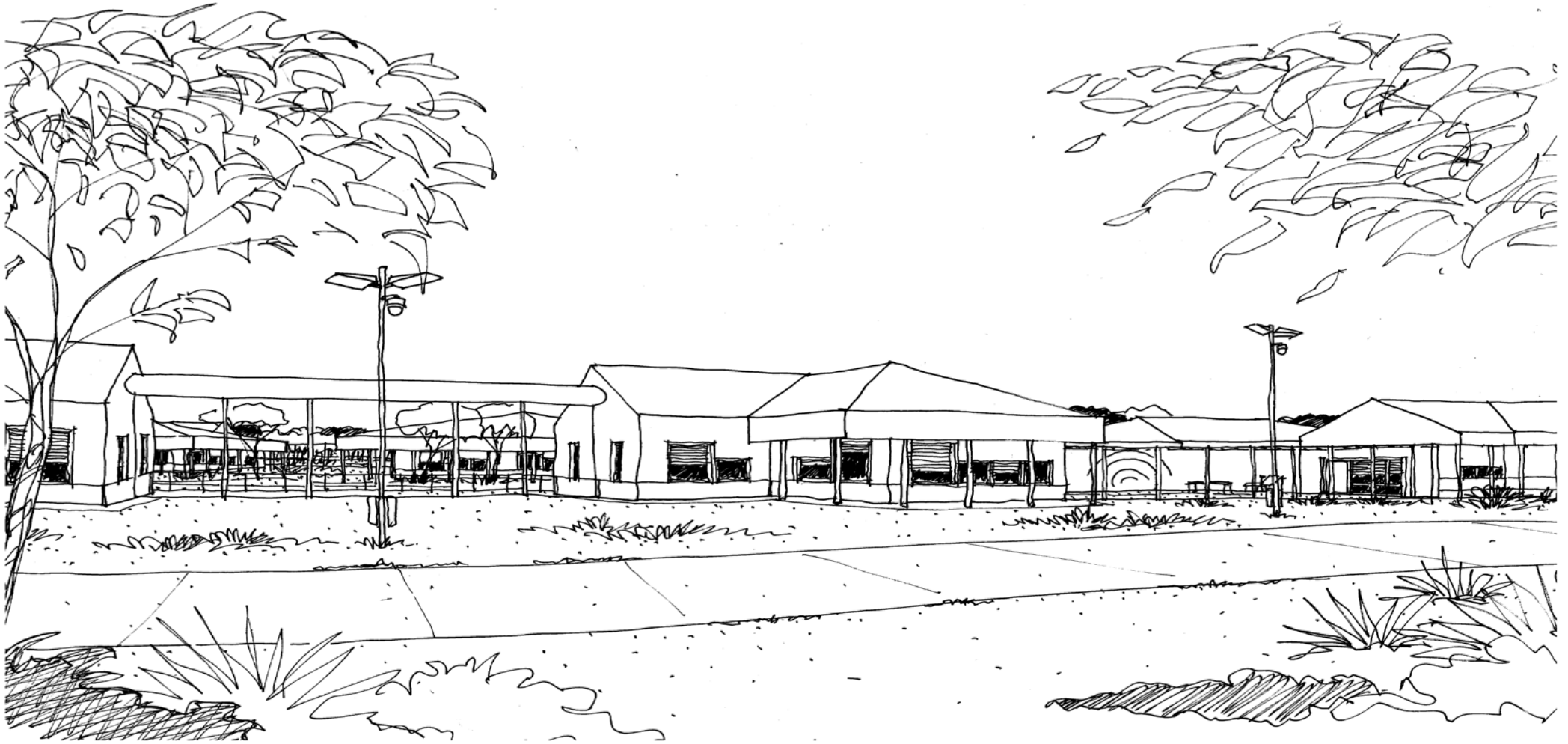
Birdseye view of the site looking south east

The Masterplan



Overall site masterplan showing extent of built area of the facility and the proposed access road

Key Design Principles



Key Design Principles

Normalisation of Environment	Therapeutic & Trauma Informed Design	Biophilic Design	Culturally Appropriate Design	Safety & Security
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow children to manage their life by creating normalised daily routines and activities to give them a better chance to adjust into society upon release. • Give children and young people and staff an environment they feel proud of and are responsible for, to encourage them to treat it with respect. • Provide an environment that can contribute to a positive change in mood about the environment, themselves and each other. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus the design on rehabilitation, education, reintegration and healing. • Reduce and remove adverse stimuli and environmental stresses. • Actively engage individuals in a dynamic, multisensory environment. • Support self-reliance and self-autonomy. • Provide and promote connections to the natural world. • Separate individuals from others who may be in distress. • Reinforce a sense of personal and cultural identity. • Promote the opportunity for choice when balancing program needs and the safety and comfort of the majority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow for exposure to nature to provide positive responses on human psychology and physiology in contribution to improved health and wellbeing. • Ensure thoughtful placement of windows with consideration of natural sun movements and understanding of wind movement specific to the site. • Ensure visual access to external spaces and borrowed landscapes using natural materials. • Avoid stark and harsh landscapes often found in detention facilities due to perceived security and maintenance implications. • Ensure views to gardens and nature are provided as often as possible, even if direct access to these areas is not feasible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate and promote connections with families and communities through facility design. • Provide options for community connection. • Use technology to support safe and frequent communication with family and friends. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise the safety and wellbeing of young people, staff and the broader community at all times. • Security is embedded in design through layered and unobtrusive measures to support safety and therapeutic care. • Spaces are designed to reduce risk, support staff visibility and provide calm and controlled environments. • Security will remain a fundamental requirement across all aspects of the design.

Site Analysis



Aerial view of the site and surrounding area

Site Analysis

Location

The site of the Facility is 466 Brighton Road, Pontville. Located in southern Tasmania, the site is approximately 3-minute drive to Brighton, 20-minute drive to Glenorchy and 30-minute drive to Hobart. With close proximity to the Midland Highway, the site is readily accessible from the North and North West of the state.

The site is a parcel of agricultural land within the Southern Midlands Council local government area. It is surrounded by the Midland Highway to the north and east, residences to the south and west and an adjacent government owned site to the south east.

Site Access

Access to the site is currently off Brighton Road. As part of site investigations and masterplanning work completed, the proposed access to the Facility will be via Rifle Range Road.

Planning Report

The development is subject to the provisions of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Southern Midlands. The site is zoned rural under the planning scheme. It is entirely within a bushfire prone area overlay and partially in a scenic road corridor and priority vegetation area overlay.

The site is not listed on the local or state heritage register, however there are state heritage listed properties within the vicinity of the site, but with no historic heritage requirements triggered by the proposed development.

Natural Values Report

The report on the natural values identifies a small number of native species are present, but these are a minor component of the species diversity and vegetation cover. It states there can be no potential impact to native or threatened vegetation communities from the development, as none are present.

The report noted the presence of four significant trees on the site, that provide potential foraging and or nesting habitats for two bird species of importance. None of these trees are affected by the proposed development.

Bushfire Report

The development will be subject to a number of requirements relating to bushfire, in particular the ability for certain buildings on the site to be adequately protected and maintain internal tenability for occupants during a bushfire event and with the required setback from all site boundaries.

Agricultural Report

The land is constrained for agricultural use due to the predominantly low land capability of the ground, low rainfall climate and absence of irrigation which limits any potential scale and level of intensification.

A number of existing features associated with the subject properties including setback distances and relative separation from nearby agricultural land, in conjunction with design and operational measures such as layout of the facility, landscaping around the facility, secure fencing, and active land management (e.g. weed control) will mitigate the impact of the development on adjacent and nearby land.

Site Analysis

Aboriginal Heritage Assessment

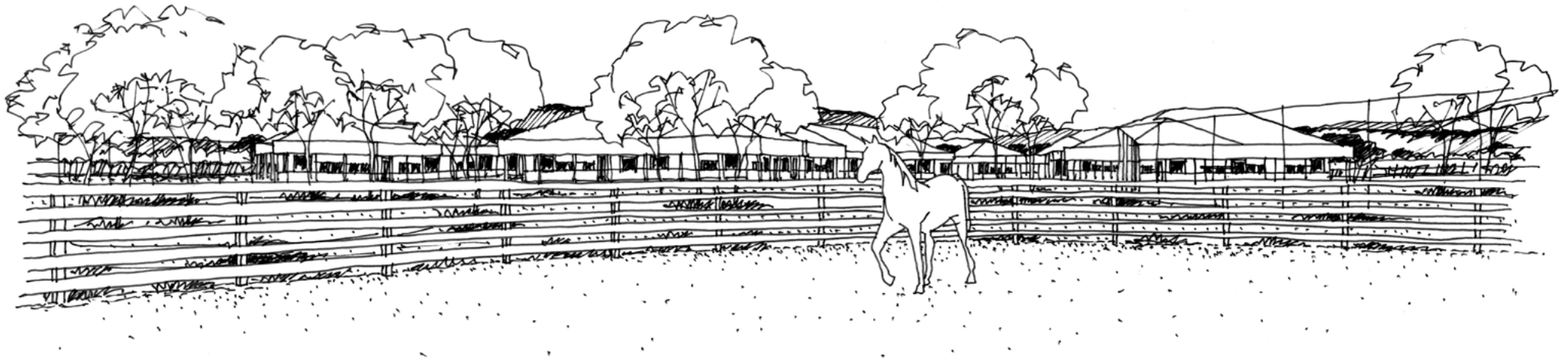
A series of Aboriginal Heritage Assessments have been completed at the site, which have identified areas of cultural significance.

The proposed development area avoids areas of high cultural significance and identifies the opportunities the presence of these areas provides to the overall development in terms of connection to Country for both the young Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people in the centre and the broader community.

We expect to explore this further with the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities and peoples as design progresses.



Design Rationale



Design Rationale

‘Small and Homelike’

The Youth Justice Reform Expert Panel provided the design team with broad-ranging advice that has been collectively referred to as ‘Small and Homelike’. This refers to not just the built form, but all other aspects of the facility. This has informed the design process and sits comfortably with the key design principles of normalisation, biophilic design, trauma-informed and therapeutic design, and culturally appropriate design.

Building as Perimeter

A traditional secure facility design generally adopts a campus model, where the buildings are bounded by a very secure external perimeter, usually set back some 30 metres from the buildings. Whilst this design has some advantages, one major disadvantage is that the secure perimeter dominates the landscape, and it is difficult to lose the feeling of enclosure.

The Facility adopts the ‘Building as Perimeter’ model. In simple terms, this means that views from bedrooms and living areas will be directly out into the landscape, with far reaching views to mountains and surrounding rural land. It also means that from the road and the entry, the secure fence line will not dominate and instead non-institutional buildings will be visible.

The Rural Vernacular

The site is rural in nature and setting, being located within the Southern Midlands Council on boundary with Brighton Council. The scale and footprint of the development will be minor in terms of the size of the overall 32-hectare site. The development will be significantly set back from site boundaries. Views to and from the site are expansive and long reaching.

Given the rural location, the design draws inspiration from rural vernacular architecture, aiming to create a built environment that feels familiar, functional and connected to its surroundings. It references the simplicity and practicality of country vernacular, evoking the aesthetic of the Georgian influence, whilst doing so in a way which is modern and forward-looking.

The Facility design aims to reinterpret this influence with an ensemble of buildings characterised by rectangular footprints, hipped roofs with skylight shafts, mimicking chimneys or protrusions, and covered verandas. These choices foster a sense of belonging and identity, ensuring that the built environment supports wellbeing and feel like they naturally belong in the agricultural setting. The assortment of buildings irregularly laid out with an irregular roof line and selections of materials will be akin to that of a small farm with volumes similar to barns, homesteads and sheds.

The architectural form prioritises a human-centred scale, with residential proportions to create a welcoming and non-institutional atmosphere. Careful spatial planning will seek to optimise thermal performance and acoustic comfort by regulating temperature and reducing noise, ensuring a comfortable environment. The integration of biophilic principles, such as natural light, views to nature, and access to outdoor spaces, will further support restorative and calming spaces. These elements will further contribute to an experience of place that promotes independence and a connection to nature, reinforcing the Facility’s therapeutic intent.

By incorporating materials such as brick and timber, the design will emphasise a sense of familiarity and warmth, referencing Tasmania’s long-standing tradition of timber and brick construction. Timber-look alternatives may be necessary where the constraints of functionality and performance require it while maintaining the intended look and feel of timber.

Design Rationale

Building Form

The masterplan explores two potential building forms for the site, each offering distinct benefits in terms of function, security, and rehabilitation outcomes.

At this stage, the masterplan provides a high-level framework, ensuring flexibility to refine and adapt the design as planning progresses.

The final building form will be determined through ongoing design development, informed by operational needs, stakeholder input, and best practices in youth justice facility design. This approach allows for a thoughtful and responsive outcome that best supports the Facility's long-term objectives.

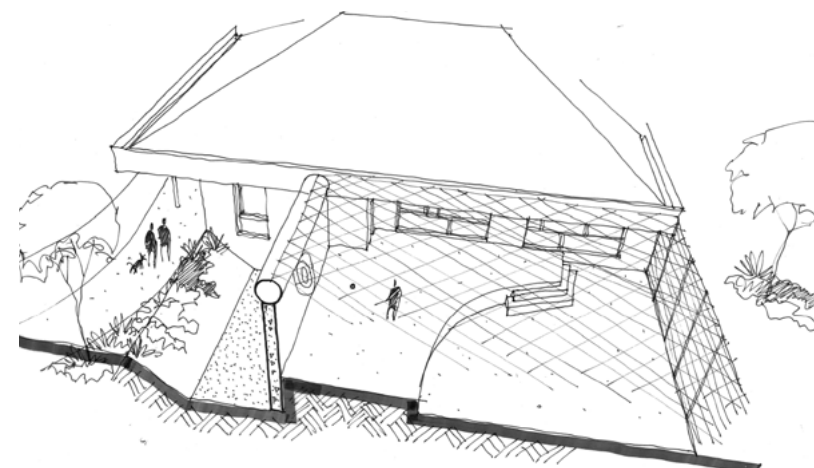
The images to the right depict these two forms including a pitched roof informed by the rural setting of the site and a skillion roof representing a more modern aesthetic.

The images also depict the outdoor secure courtyards with a mesh above. This creates a safe yet open environment that supports the autonomy and wellbeing of young people.

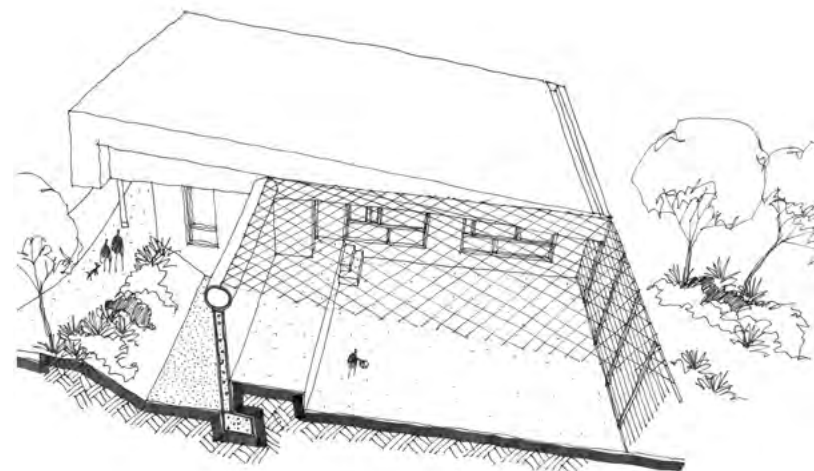
The mesh allows natural light and airflow while maintaining security, enabling young people to spend more time outdoors without constant supervision.

This design feature increases access to movement, and unstructured recreation, supporting physical and mental health. It also fosters a sense of trust and normalcy, giving young people greater flexibility to use this outdoor space when in their house, and promotes more independent use of time.

Overall, it helps to strike a balance between safety and self-determination, contributing to a more therapeutic and rehabilitative environment.

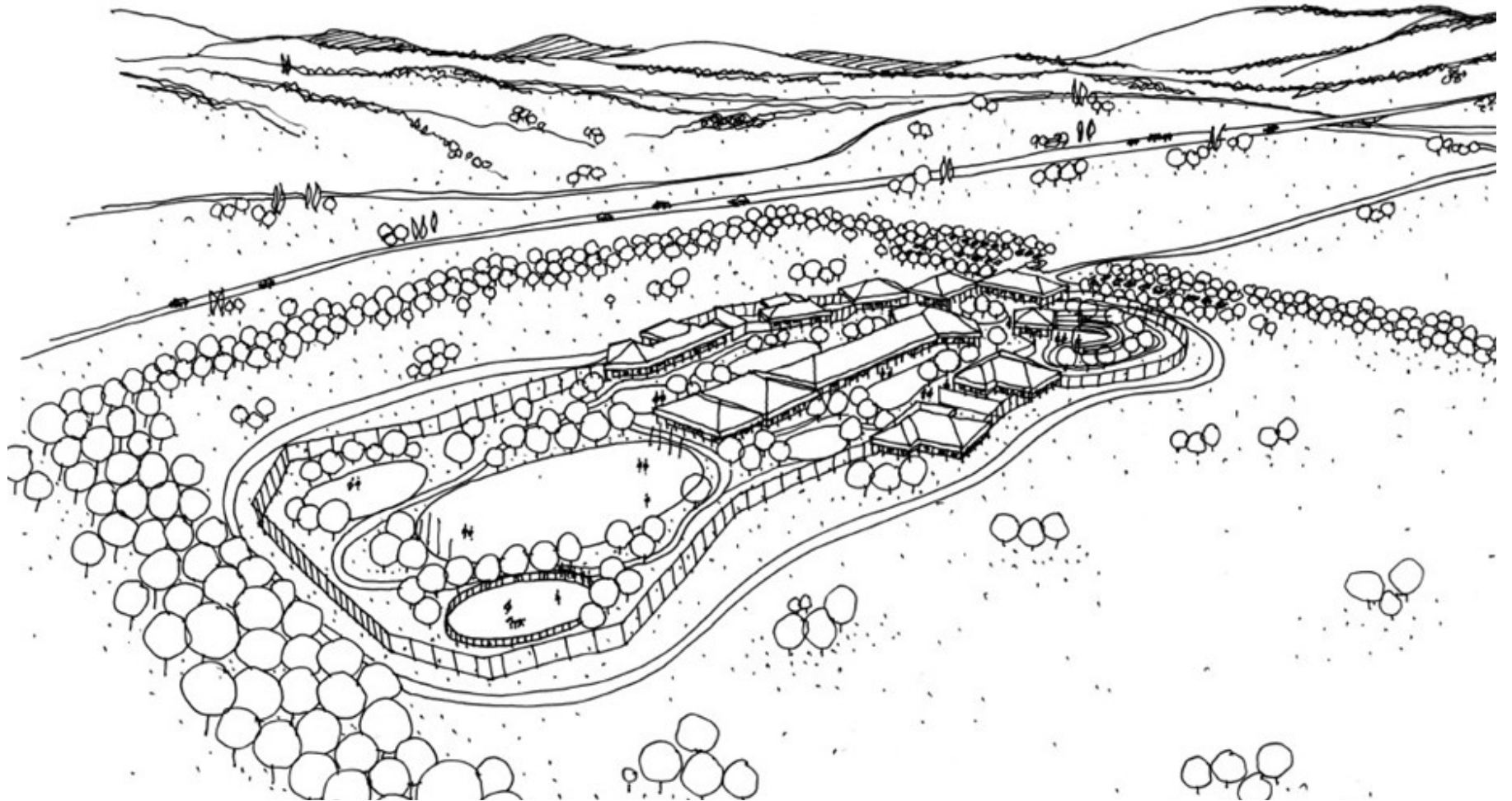


Option 1 – Pitched roof design, supporting the rural vernacular



Option 2 – Skillion roof design, supporting a more modern aesthetic

Concept



Concept

Site Neighbourhood and Context

The site is located in a rural area with a diverse range of neighbours adjacent and in proximity to the proposed development.

Large expanses of existing landscape and vegetation currently separate the proposed development from adjacent neighbours and the surrounding context.

Additional planting to the perimeter of the site and the existing tree line within the property will be completed as part of an early works package to provide further screening from the road and adjacent land users.

Site Planning

The masterplan for the site adopts a 'Building as Perimeter' model. The significant feature of this approach is that the windows from the buildings that form part of the secure perimeter look directly out to the landscape and not to a fence line. On this site, this will provide far reaching views to mountains, and closer views to the horses in the surrounding paddocks.

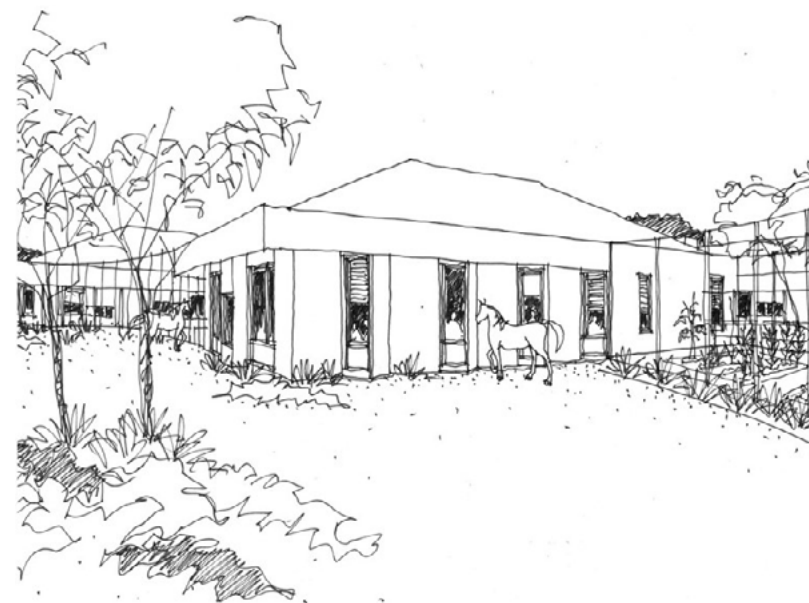
This design approach is particularly important from a therapeutic perspective, as access to natural views has been shown to reduce stress, support emotional regulation and promote a sense of calm. The ability to see open landscapes and animals, rather than security barriers, reinforces a connection to the outside world and provides motivation for change. Additionally, views of nature can help counteract feelings of isolation and confinement, supporting mental health and encouraging reflection and personal growth.

The site boundary is more than 150m away in most instances, so the issue of privacy is lessened as a result of this large parcel of land.

The Facility will be accessed via a new road off Rifle Range Road which will be upgraded as required.

The overall site will have a delineation fence line with provision for rural use to continue surrounding the Facility, outside of the secure area.

The proposed siting also takes advantage of the identified cultural significance of the surrounding land, identifying an opportunity for establishing a cultural garden walk. This garden could be maintained and managed by young Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people at the Facility under the guidance of local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander elders, providing a meaningful and valuable addition to the local community.



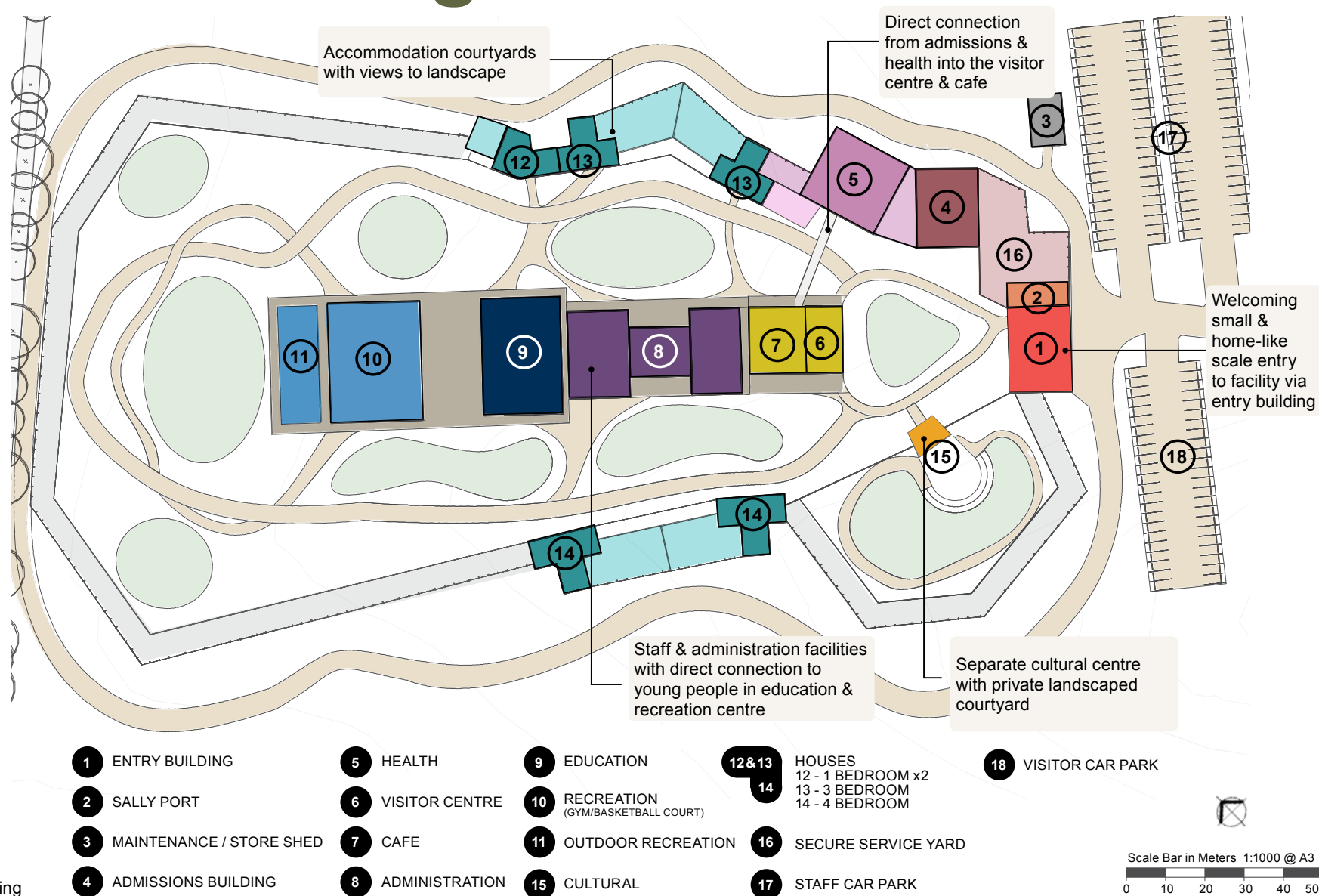
View to accommodation building from outside the facility showing the benefit of the 'Building as Perimeter' model

Functional Zoning

Building as Perimeter masterplan proposal.

LEGEND

- Entry
- Sally Port
- Maintenance Shed
- Admissions
- Health
- Visitor / Cafe
- Staff / Administration
- Education
- Recreation
- House
- Cultural
- Greenspace
- Covered Pathway
- Secure Service Yard
- Secure Courtyard
- Pathway / Gathering / Parking



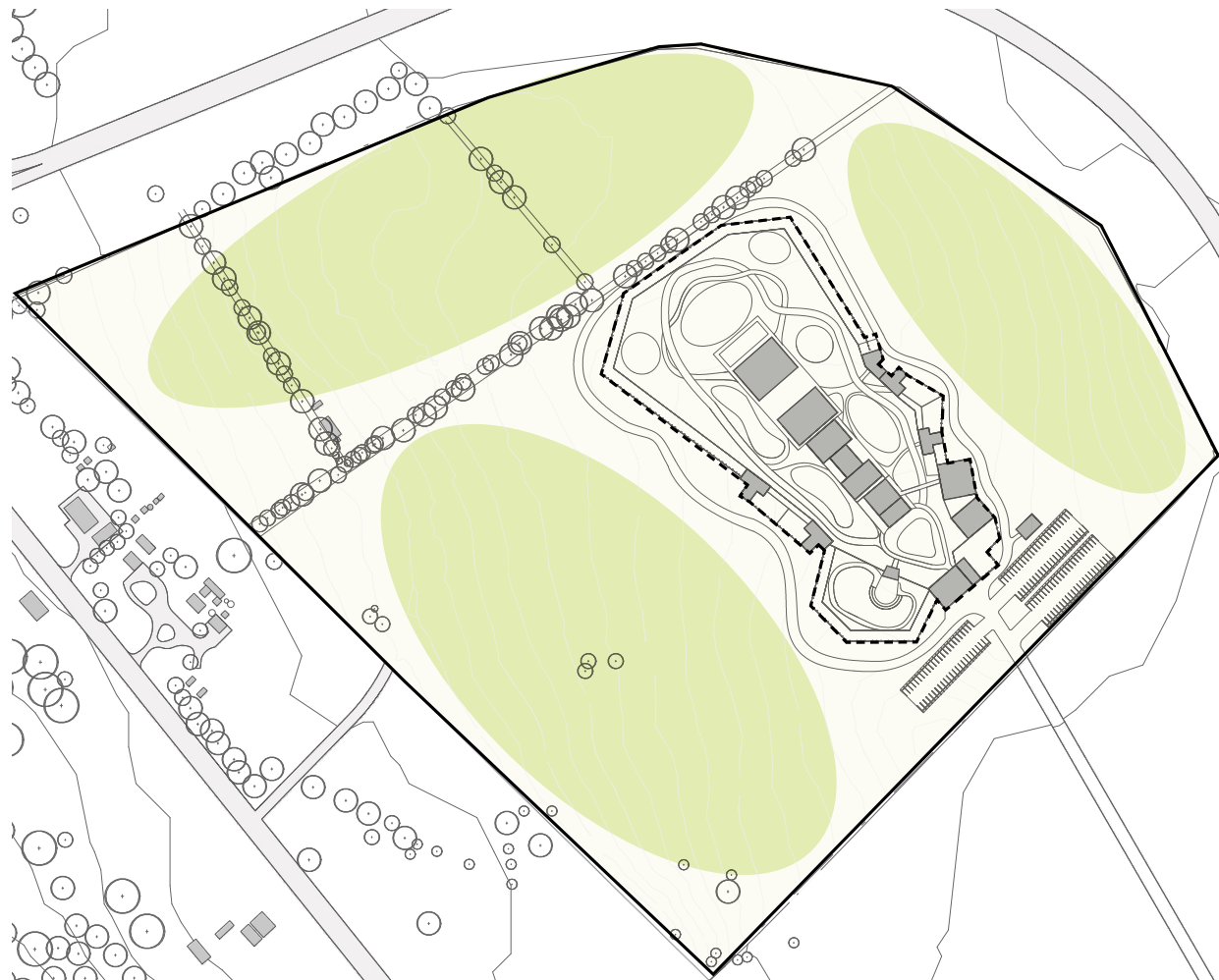
Rural Area Opportunities

The site currently accommodates a horse rehabilitation program as part of its existing rural use. The masterplan preserves and enhances this rural character by allowing for the continued use of the surrounding land for agricultural and equine-related activities.

Additionally, the design of the Facility will create opportunities to integrate and establish meaningful connections with these rural programs, potentially supporting therapeutic, educational and vocational initiatives for young people within the Facility.

LEGEND

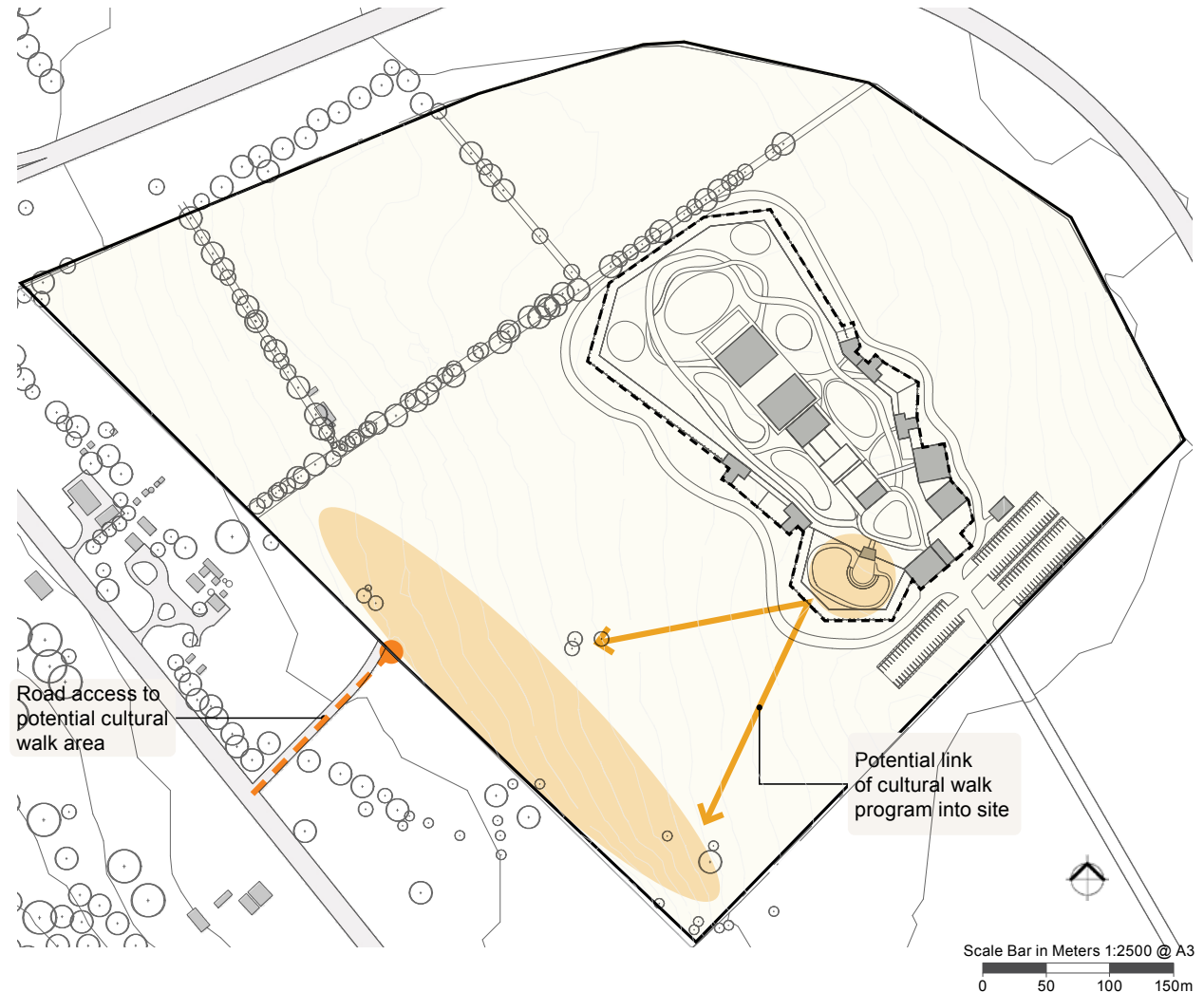
- Existing Site Boundary
- - - Proposed Development Site
- Horse Grazing Area



Cultural Walk Program

The existing significant cultural heritage of the site presents an opportunity to establish dedicated areas for a cultural walk program. This initiative could be connected to cultural spaces within the Facility, fostering a deeper sense of identity, belonging and learning.

By actively involving young people, their families, and the broader community in the development and care of these spaces, the program can support cultural connection, storytelling and intergenerational engagement, reinforcing a sense of pride and continuity.



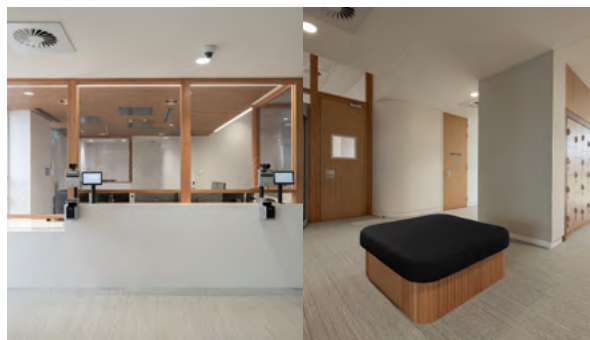
LEGEND

- Existing Site Boundary
- Proposed Development Site
- Cultural Walk Area

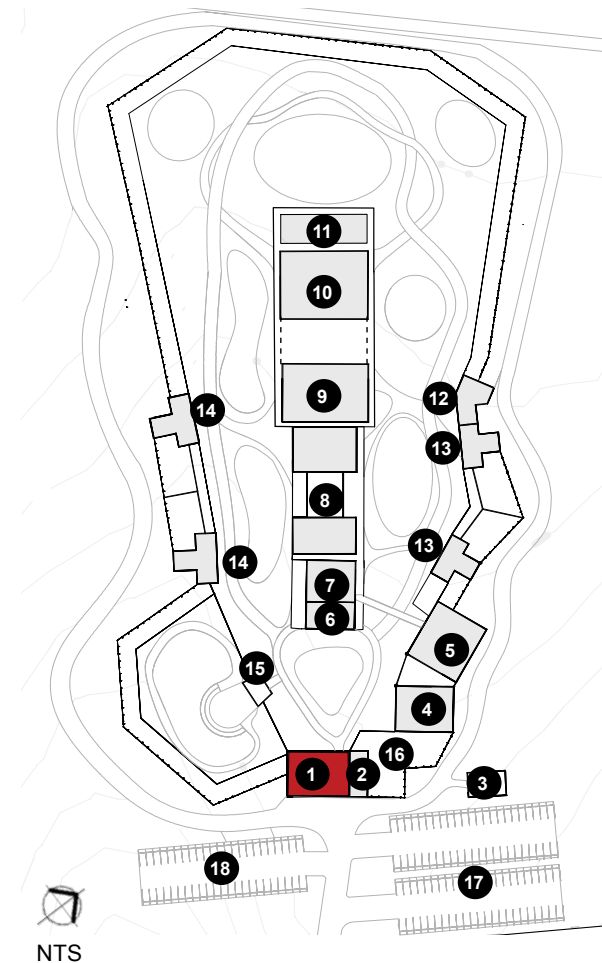
Entry Building

The entry building to the new Facility will be a commercially scaled building with a welcoming and attractive entry point. All visitors and staff will enter the site through the same point and move through a screening area to access the interior of the site. The entry building will have end of trip facilities for visitors and staff lockers.

An upper level of the building will house the site's master control room and security staff facilities. The entry building will also include the vehicle sally port which provides secure access into the service yard.



Design precedent images



Entry Building



View towards the entry building from the entry roadway from Rifle Range Road.

Building Admissions Building

The admissions building will sit directly adjacent the entry building.

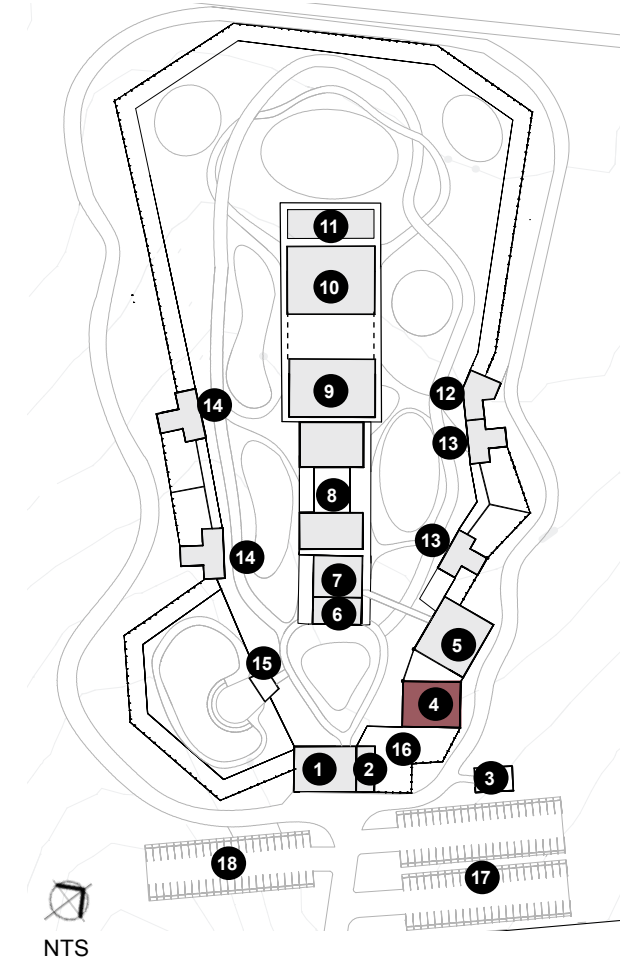
The intent is that the building will provide a calm and safe environment with a high level of amenity, acknowledging the high stress levels that can be present in a young person at this time.

The building will have two bedrooms with ensuites and a small lounge area that will allow young people who may only need to be on site for a single night to be accommodated safely and securely. Otherwise, these beds serve as a stepping point for new arrivals to the site before being placed in one of the residential accommodation buildings.

The admissions building also has a direct link to the health centre, recognising the strong link and importance of health of the young people coming to the Facility.



Design precedent images



Health Building

Children entering youth detention often have a wide range of unmet health needs. It is essential that the new Facility has the appropriate space and professional staff to address these needs.

The health centre will be as close as possible in both look and operation to a community health centre to help normalise young people's interaction. It will have a waiting area and reception, like what would be found at a local GP.

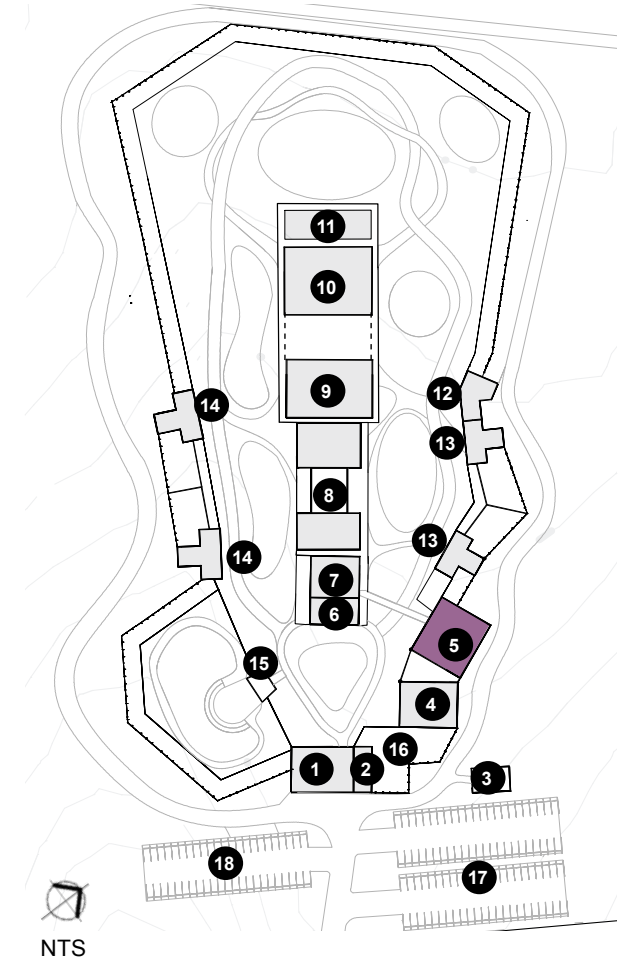
In addition to consulting and treatment areas for access to primary and mental health services, the centre will have two beds to cater for short stays where young people may need specialised care.

Youth Forensic Mental Health Services will provide referral and access to mental health treatment, care and support for children and young people, whether they are under community-based supervision, in detention or not yet sentenced (including remand).

Children and young people will have daily access to an onsite child and adolescent psychologist and fortnightly access to an onsite child and adolescent psychiatrist.



Design precedent image



Visitor Centre + Cafe

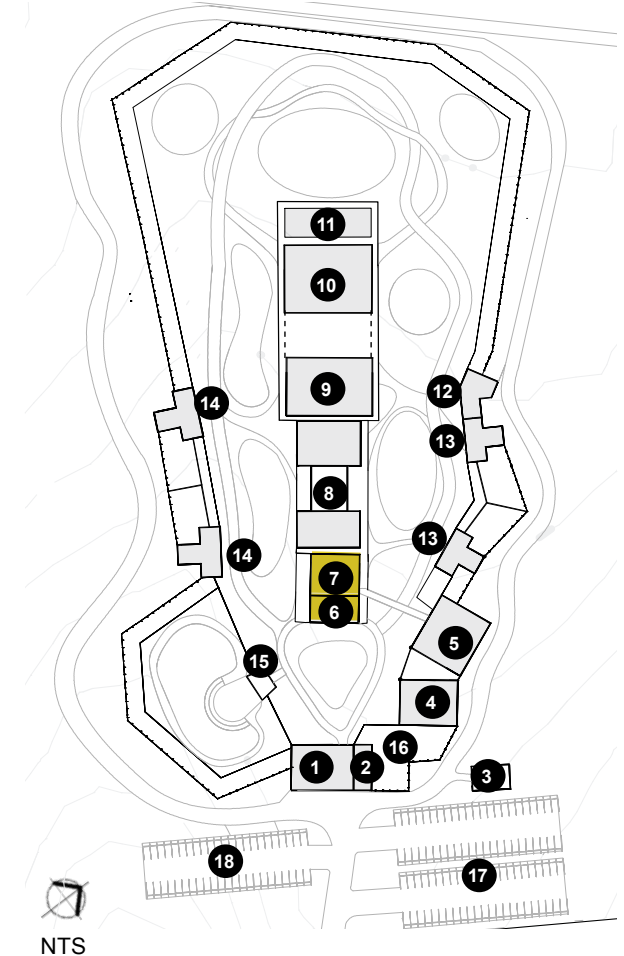
The Visitor Centre will sit directly opposite the entry building so upon entry visitors will be able to see where they are heading. It will contain a range of spaces to support different types of visits, in both indoor and outdoor settings.

Adjacent to and with a direct link, the cafe will provide for the visitor centre as well as serving the broader site.

The cafe will also function as a training kitchen for the young people as well as site kitchen, providing meals for the site as required. It is intended that the cafe acts as a central hub for the site: drawing young people, staff and visitors together and providing a setting for informal interactions between all the users of the site. The cafe will provide young people with opportunities to develop social skills and potential employment connections, both of which enhance positive reintegration to communities.

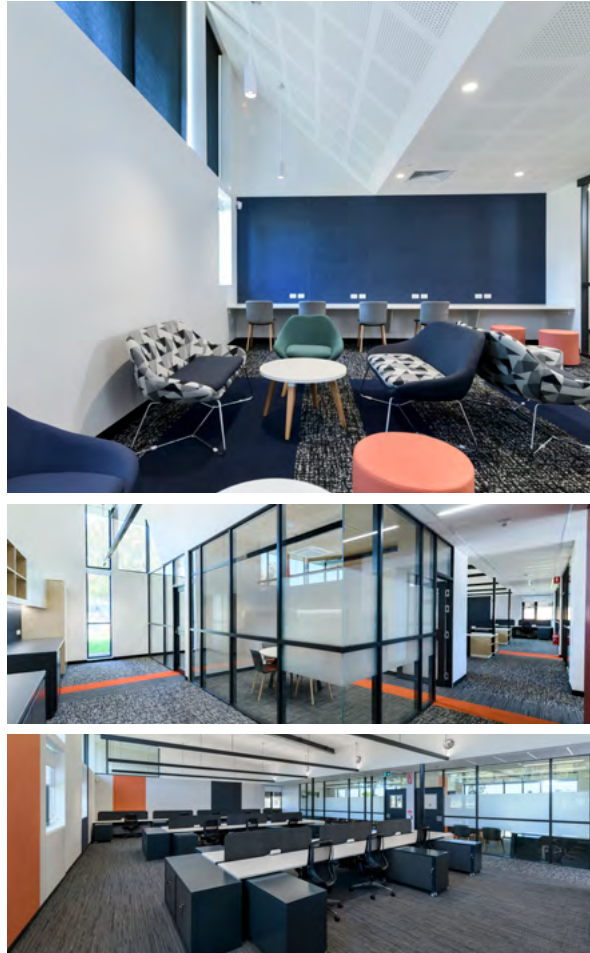


Design precedent images

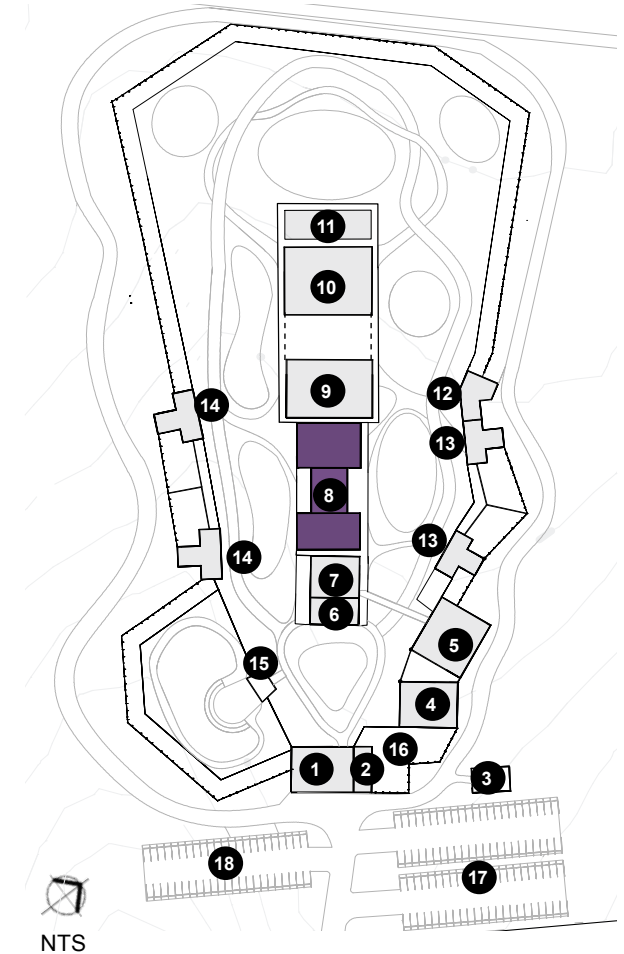


Administration / Staff

It is intended that the majority of staff will be accommodated in this central building when not working directly with children and young people. The building will have the staff amenities, meeting spaces and utility areas servicing a combination of office, workstations and hot desks. A second 'loft style' level will potentially provide staff wellbeing and retreat spaces, although it is not intended that these spaces overlook the site but instead provide a space for staff to manage their wellbeing.



Design precedent images



Education Building

The education centre will be the hub of education facilities on the site, notwithstanding the provision of other spaces across the site that can be used flexibly for education and vocational programs.

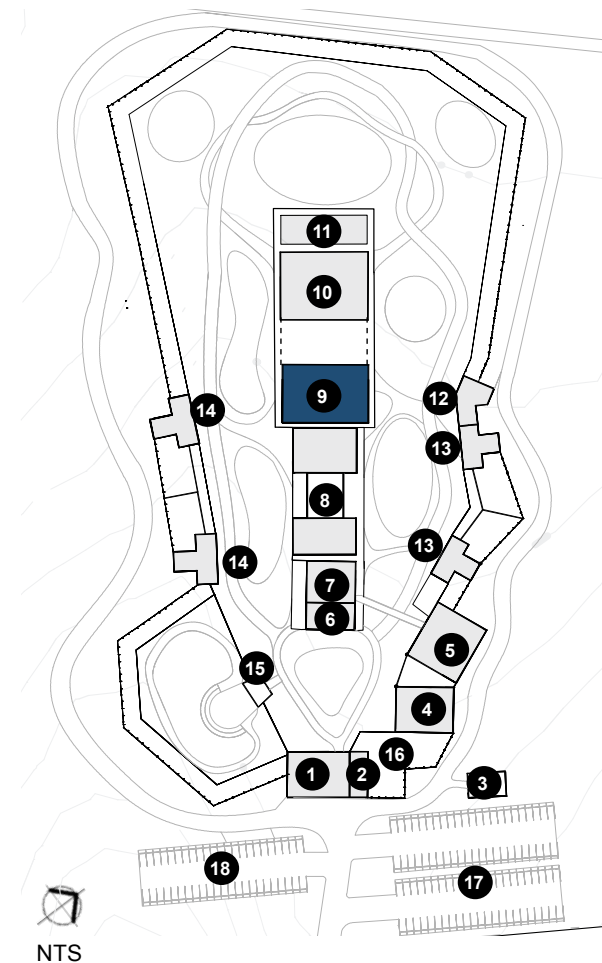
The centre will contain a series of teaching spaces, with adjacent secure outdoor areas and indoor break out spaces. Use of laptops and portable devices will mean that all spaces will support the use of technology equally. Both international conventions and national laws and guidelines recognise the right of children and young people in detention to access education. Additionally, education is widely regarded as a crucial protective and rehabilitative factor.

Education, learning opportunities, programmes and access to appropriate training and vocational courses are essential core elements of each child and young person's stay in detention. The flexibility of the provision of these opportunities at the facility help develop and enrich young people's engagement in their learning and increase the likelihood of rehabilitation and reduce the likelihood of re-offending on reintegration to communities.

Education staff will sit within the main staff building but will be directly adjacent and linked to the education centre, ensuring that they maintain connections with the broader staff group whilst still overseeing and being connected to the education spaces.



Design precedent image

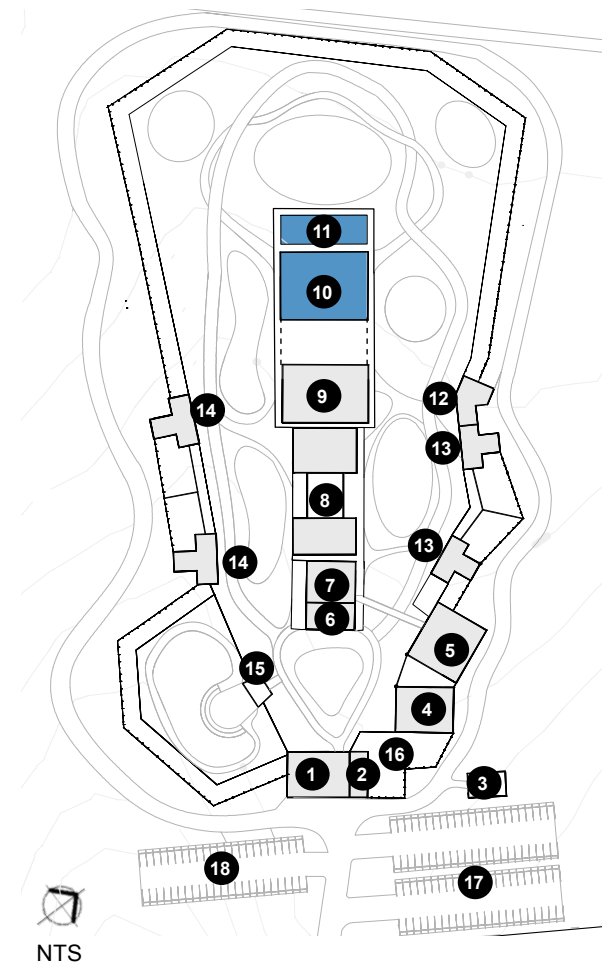


Recreation Facilities

Directly adjacent to the education centre will be a series of indoor and outdoor recreational spaces, designed to support physical wellbeing, social interaction and emotional regulation.

Access to recreation is essential in a youth justice setting, providing structured opportunities for movement, stress relief and the development of teamwork and resilience.

These spaces will not only contribute to overall health and fitness but also serve as vital outlets for self-expression, skill-building and positive engagement, helping to foster personal growth and rehabilitation.



Houses

Accommodation on the site will be provided in a series of three and four bed houses, and two single bed studios. The bedrooms will each have their own ensuite, and each room will look directly out to the landscape (without looking through a fence) under the proposed 'Building as Perimeter' model.

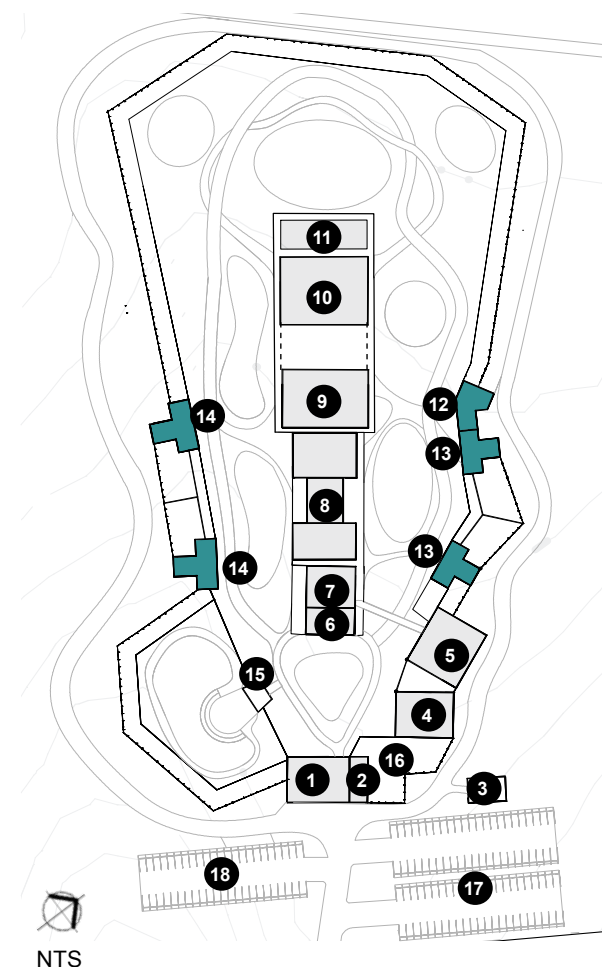
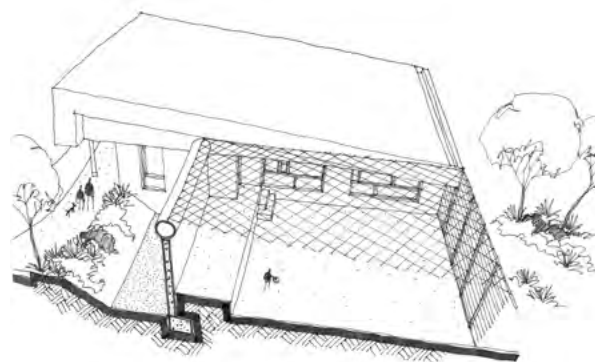
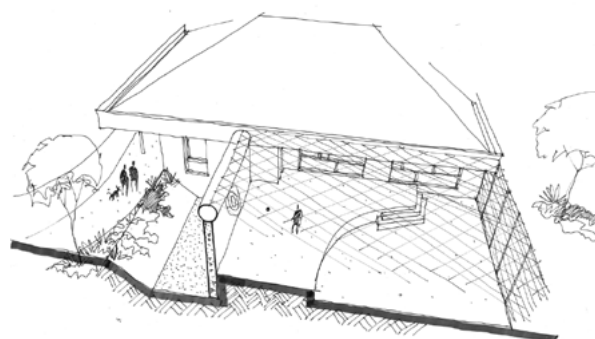
The houses will each have a residential style kitchen, living and dining space together with laundry facilities. Young people will cook, clean and live in a normalised environment together with the staff overseeing their care. A separate staff space will provide a quiet workspace, with the intention the staff will spend the majority of their time in the living areas with the young people.

Each living area will open onto a secure outdoor courtyard with a range of garden and activity zones. This space will also look out over the surrounding landscape. As noted previously, these spaces create a safe yet open environment to support the autonomy and wellbeing of young people, with the security of the courtyard helping to strike a balance between safety and self-determination. This contributes to a more therapeutic and rehabilitative environment.

Each house will have a multi-purpose room that can be used for education, health services, counselling or other uses, meaning a young person does not need to leave their accommodation to access these services if required.

Small houses are often used to create a more home-like, therapeutic environment that support rehabilitation and personal pro-social development. Unlike traditional large-scale institutional buildings, small houses provide a more normalised and less intimidating setting, helping to reduce stress, encourage positive behaviour and foster a sense of responsibility and belonging.

Overall, the small house model helps to create a rehabilitative, rather than punitive, environment—one that is more conducive to positive change and successful reintegration into society.



Houses

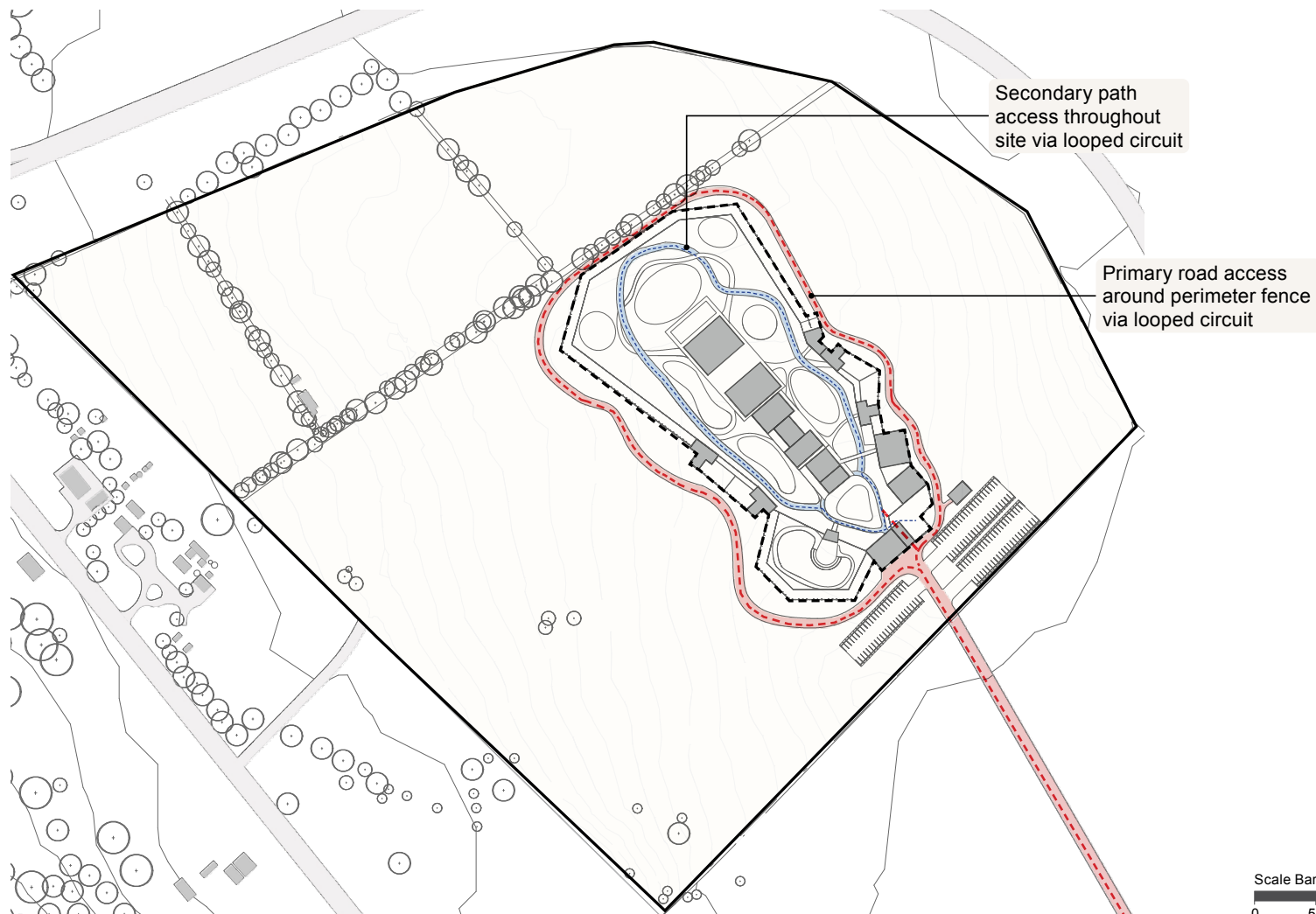


View upon leaving the Entry Building and looking down the site towards the Visitors Centre

Emergency Vehicle Access

The masterplan design provides access to the site via Rifle Range Road.

Clear internal and external emergency access is provided, with the layout of the site naturally conducive to clearly define access paths which will aid in fast response times in the event of an emergency.

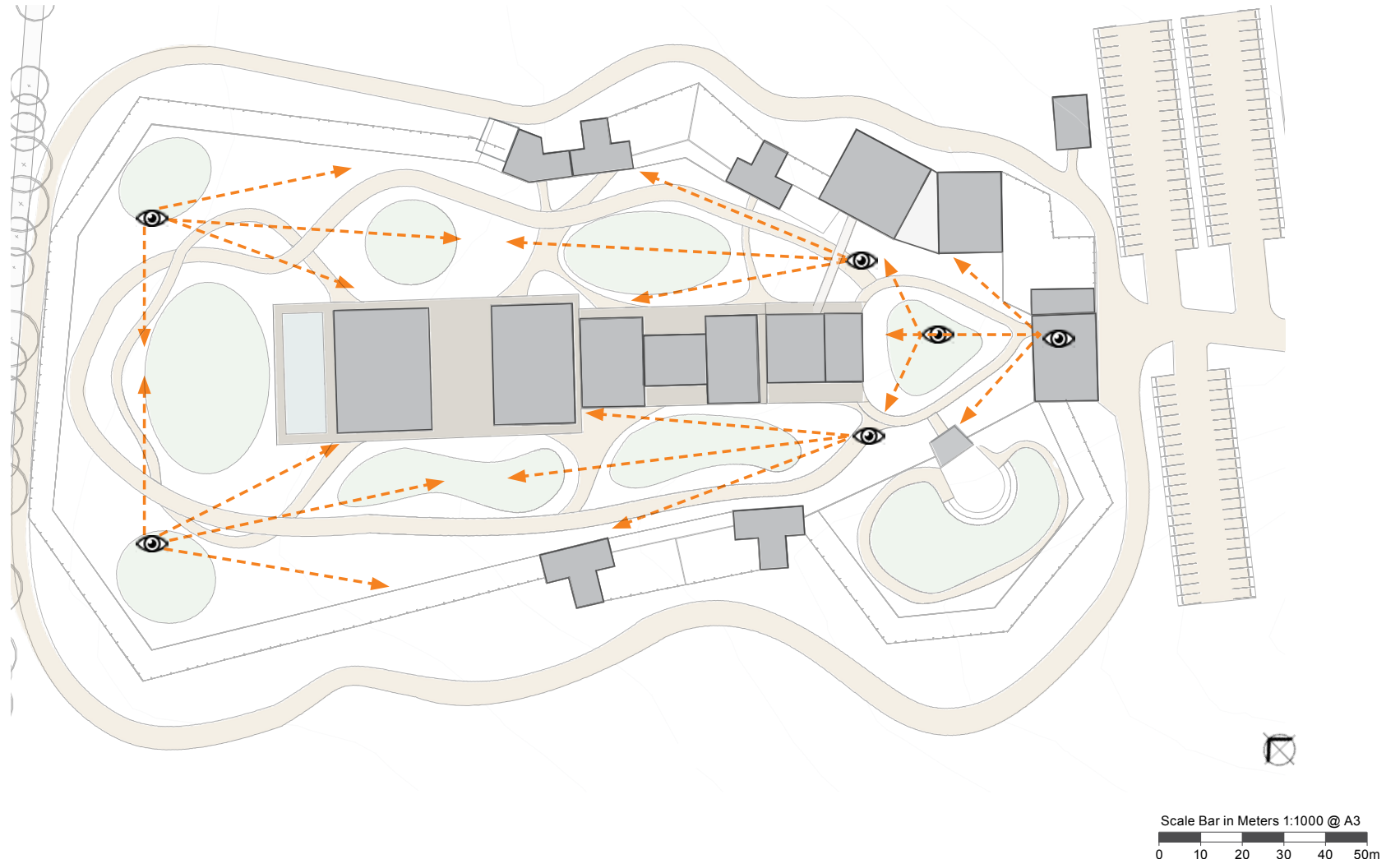


Sight Lines and Circulation

The masterplan utilises a central spine of buildings that allow for clear multi-directional site lines across the Facility. These site lines are formed naturally, align the key circulation pathways and integrate seamlessly with the proposed built form.

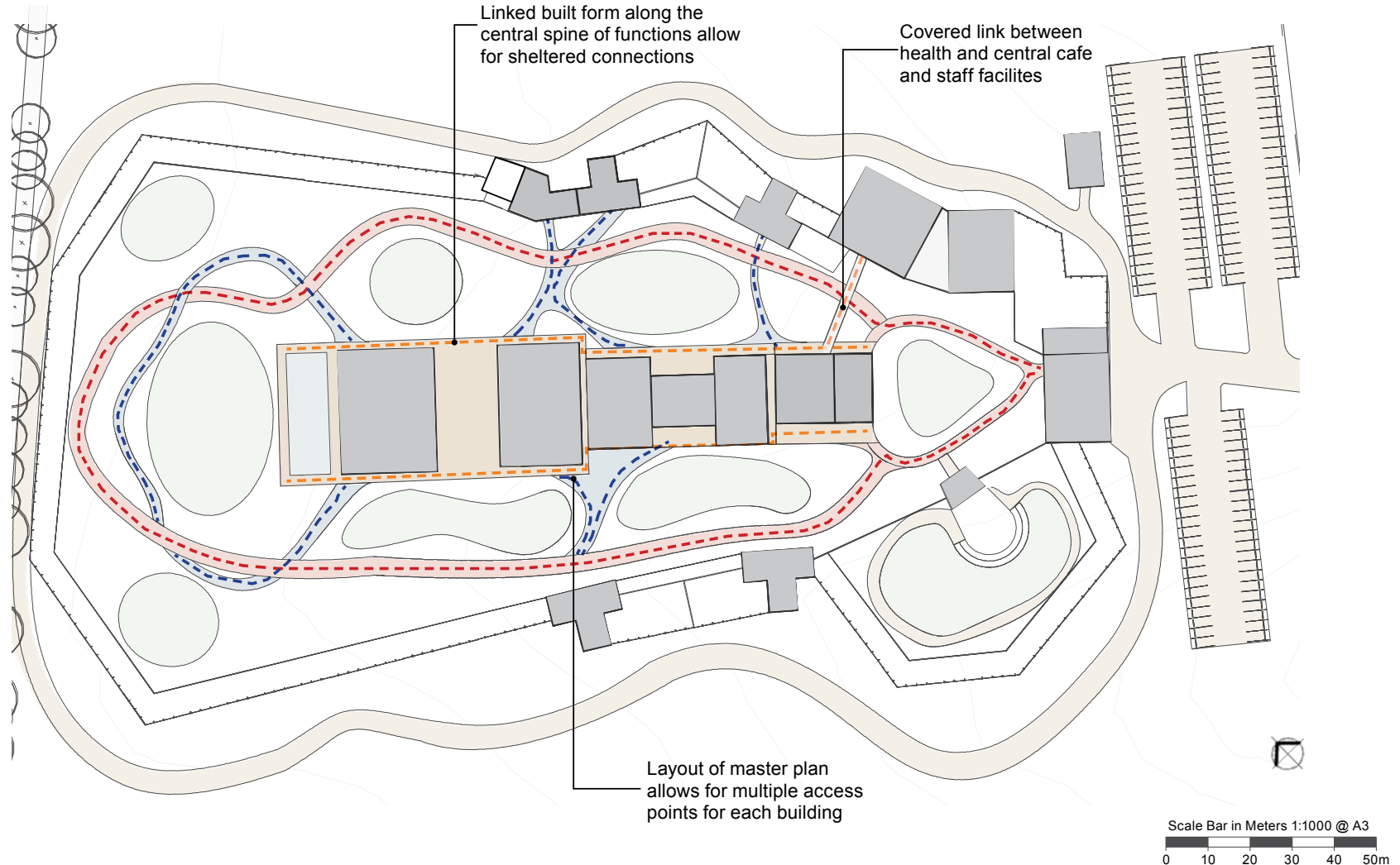
The combination of effective passive supervision across the site will complement the active supervision in the security design.

The plan also provides clear pathways of travel between buildings and multiple paths of travel help to provide staff with options when young people move across the site to help avoid unwanted interactions from occurring.



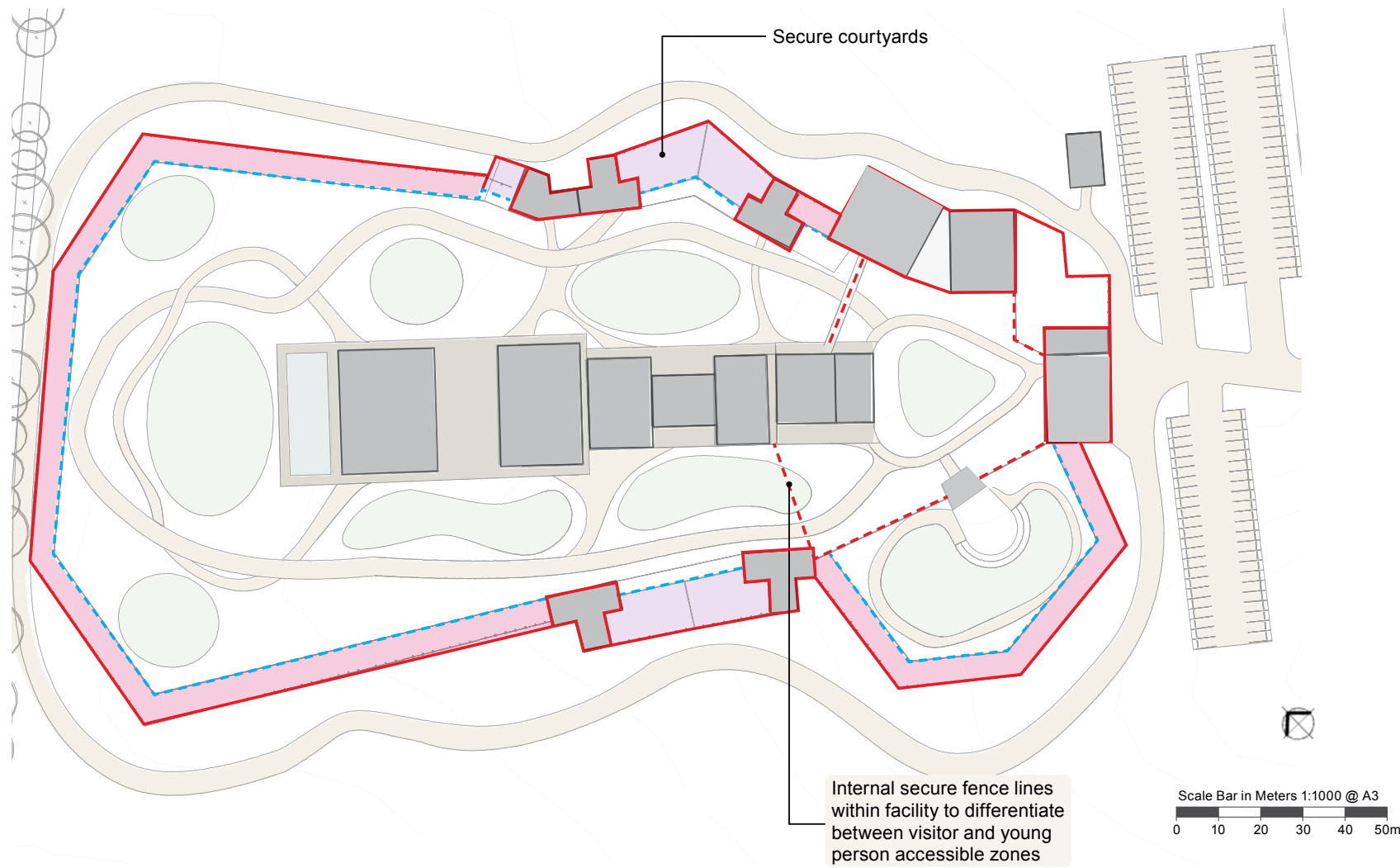
Pedestrian Zoning

To aid in movement throughout the site, multiple pedestrian routes and zoning have been provided. This provides flexibility for staff to manage different groups operationally throughout the site without compromising on efficiency for security. Access throughout the site will range from various exposed landscaped routes to sheltered or enclosed concourses and walkways.



Secure Line

Utilising the 'Building as a Perimeter' model supports the small and homelike aspiration of the new Facility. A secure perimeter will be present with an 8m separation zone. The individual secure courtyards will form part of this zone for each accommodation building, allowing for uninterrupted views of the external landscape for young people.



Landscape



Landscape

The landscape at the proposed Facility has the potential to play a crucial role in shaping the wellbeing and rehabilitation of young individuals.

The Pontville site is ideal for offering a variety of outdoor spaces that provide opportunities for physical activity, reflection and a connection with nature, all of which are essential for mental and emotional health.

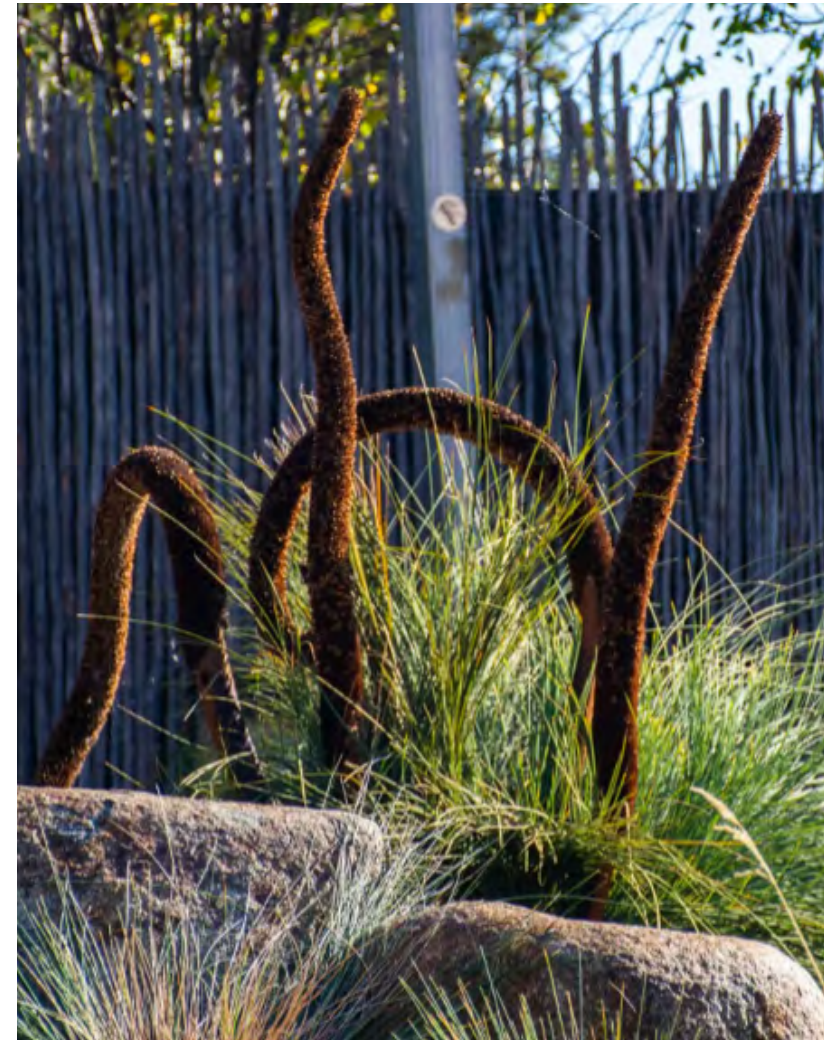
The connection to the rural use of the site, with views of the paddocks and horses, will be a valuable addition.

The surrounding topography offers calming rural views of the nearby hills, further enhancing the therapeutic environment.

There is also the potential for cultural gardens and teachings, which can deepen the connection to community and country.

A well-maintained landscape promotes a sense of calm and security, reducing stress and encouraging positive behaviour.

Natural spaces also foster social interactions, teamwork and a sense of belonging among youth. By incorporating green spaces, gardens and areas for quiet contemplation, the landscape offers young people a chance to feel more connected to their environment, fostering autonomy and self-awareness. In this way, the landscape will be an integral part of creating a supportive, therapeutic and rehabilitative atmosphere.



Landscape



Site Infrastructure



Site Infrastructure

Access Road

Access to the Facility will be via Rifle Range Road.

Accessing the Facility via Rifle Range Road provides a more discreet and controlled entry, helping to maintain privacy for young people, staff, and visitors while minimising unnecessary attention.

This route also reduces traffic impact on neighbouring properties by directing movements away from existing residences.

Additionally, this entry point allows for a more purposeful arrival experience, reinforcing the Facility's structured and secure environment while ensuring a respectful and measured approach to integration within the broader landscape.

Electrical

The Facility will require a new power supply from TasNetworks as there is currently no existing electrical infrastructure on-site.

A diesel generator will provide emergency backup power.

Perimeter lighting will be motion-activated and utilise a control system to dim the lights when not required. Parking and entryways will be well lit for staff and visitor safety.

Recreational areas will have LED fixtures with time-based controls to ensure safe movement where required.

All outdoor lighting will comply to AS/NZS 4282 to prevent obtrusive light. LED lenses will be utilised which are fully shielded and directed down with efficient optics that will limit the amount of high angled light, reducing visibility from neighbouring sites.

Hydraulics

Site Sewer

There is currently no sewer infrastructure to the site and a new sewage system will be required to serve the facility.

It is proposed to treat sewage on site without the need for a new mains connection. Under this arrangement, treated wastewater would be disinfected and held in underground storage tanks and discharged via a combination of sub-soil trenches and above ground irrigation.

Building Stormwater

Stormwater drainage from each building will be captured at roof level through suitably engineered gutters, complete with overflow provisions, and stormwater drainage pipework to ground level.

The stormwater drainage will then feed into the site stormwater infrastructure provided.

Potable Water

There is currently no water infrastructure to the site and a connection to the existing water main in Brighton Road will be required to serve the facility.

Independent heat pump hot water systems will be installed within each building or group of buildings to service the required amenities.

All WC cisterns will be low volume flush cisterns, and the wash hand basins, showers and sinks will only be served via 3 – 6 star WELS rated taps.

All pipework will have thermal insulation fitted (including service shafts and droppers in walls). All pipework will have thermal insulation fitted (including service shafts and droppers in walls).

Security



Security

Electronic surveillance and other mechanisms will be used within the Facility to keep children and young people safe and reduce the risk of harm. These mechanisms will be supported by child centred policies and services that uphold their rights.

Site Perimeter

The external wall construction and detailing of the perimeter buildings will be of the highest security level – precast concrete with cast in steel framed windows and high security glazing.

The external secure courtyards that sit on the boundary will have a tensioned mesh 'roof' in addition to a combination of anti-climb mesh fencing and smooth precast walling with secure anti-climb top.

The perimeter to the other areas of the site will be anti-climb mesh.

Entry to the site will be by the Entry Building, which will house a secure vehicle sallyport, and a secure screening area with interlocked doors.

The physical design of the facility secure perimeter will be supported with vibration detection, video analytics and radar technologies to deter, detect and view any attempt to climb or tamper with the perimeter, both internally and externally.

Landscaping and lighting design at the front and external perimeter of the facility where buildings form part of the perimeter will incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. All physical security will be supported by various layers of electronic security.

Electronic Security

Electronic security systems will be used to enhance and monitor the safety and security of all people and buildings throughout the facility. Electronic security systems will also be used to support the operational needs of the facility, including incident review and investigations.

CCTV coverage will be used to detect movement via fixed and movable optical and thermal cameras configured with video analytics.

Movement detection technology such as radar will also be employed as an adjunct to CCTV.

Sallyport

The Sallyport will have either secure gates or shutters on both sides of the sallyport for vehicle entry into and out of the facility.

Internal non-accommodation buildings

Access to all buildings will be controlled and accessed electronically. All door locks will have a manual key override for emergency use.

Any building not in use after hours will be monitored. There will be CCTV coverage in all areas where young people have access, except where the need for privacy exists, such as the health building consultation rooms.

Support

Contacts

Content in this masterplan may raise issues of concern for some readers. Child sexual abuse is a challenging issue. We encourage readers to exercise self-care in engaging with this content and seek support and care if required.

If you need support, a range of free and confidential support services are available by phone and/or face-to-face. If you need to talk to someone, you can contact the following.

State-wide Sexual Assault Support Line

24/7 support from local specialist counsellors provided by the Sexual Assault Support Service and Laurel House

1800 697 877 (1800 MY SUPPORT)

Lifeline

24/7 crisis support

13 11 14

A Tasmanian Lifeline

8am-8pm, 365 days a year

1800 98 44 34 for support and referral

13 YARN

24/7- crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

13 92 76

Relationships Australia Tasmania

Specialist complex trauma counselling, trauma-informed counselling, wellbeing information and referral

9am-5pm, Monday to Friday

1300 364 277

Kids Helpline

24/7 support for children and young people provided by specialist counsellors

1800 55 1800

Reporting child sexual abuse

We all have a responsibility to ensure children and young people are safe. If you have ANY concerns about the

safety of a child, you must report it. If a child is at immediate risk of harm, contact 000 for urgent police or medical help or if a crime is happening now.

For advice or to refer an abuse matter, contact the Advice and Referral Line on 1800 000 123.

Where a crime may have been committed, contact police on 131 144 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Visit the Tell Someone website tellsomeone.tas.gov.au for more information about recognising the signs of child sexual abuse.

