

Media Release

Wednesday 5th November

Southern Cross Care to close Rosary Gardens

As one of Tasmania's largest providers of Aged Care Services, Southern Cross Care has seen a shift from Residential Aged Care towards Home Based Care over recent years.

This is a trend that we support, and which we expect to continue moving forward.

Accordingly, to adapt to this changing dynamic, we have made the difficult decision to close our Rosary Gardens aged care facility in New Town in June next year.

Southern Cross Care Chair Sonya Beyers said that the organisation was acutely aware that the decision would impact directly on many people, and said that they would do everything possible to ease the transition for residents, families and guardians, and staff.

"We wish to be clear, during and at the completion of this process none of our residents will be left without an appropriate place to live," Ms Beyers said.

"The well-being of our residents is our number one priority and we will work with each of them, and their families and guardians as appropriate, to ensure an appropriate transition arising from the closure in the middle of next year."

Ms Beyers added that with the closure of Rosary Gardens, the entire St. John's Park property at New Town was surplus to requirements and would be sold.

As part of this process, Southern Cross also expect to relocate their Southern Cross Care head office which is currently at St John's Park, to a new location within Hobart.

Ms Beyers emphasised that it is not anticipated that there will be any forced redundancies during this process, and that Southern Cross Care has no plans to close any of its other existing facilities throughout Tasmania.



BACKGROUND: Rosary Gardens is a 94 Bed residential aged-care facility located at St John's Park in New Town, on some 3.9 hectares of land off Creek Road.

Southern Cross Care is Tasmania's largest not-for-profit aged care provider, employing more than 1,200 staff statewide operating nine residential aged-care facilities totalling more than 700 beds. The organization also manages thirteen lifestyle villages for independent retirement living in Tasmania, and provides statewide home-care services to over 850 clients.

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