



# Currie Hall Student Accommodation Development

## FACT SHEET



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### Delivering new high-quality student accommodation

The University of Western Australia is constructing new student accommodation to cater for increasing demand from students who want to live on or near its Crawley campus.

A major development to provide high-quality self-catering student accommodation and associated amenities has been approved by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) and will be constructed at Currie Hall with forward works commencing October 2011. The targeted completion date is December 2012 with rooms ready for occupancy in Semester One, 2013.

The Currie Hall development is supported by the Federal and State governments under the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS). The construction of affordable, high-quality student accommodation will benefit students, particularly those from rural and regional Western Australia and students with disabilities.

The development of high-quality student accommodation is aligned with the University's priority to enhance the UWA student experience and achieve its long term goal to be amongst the top 50 universities in the world by 2050.

It is well known that living and learning on campus enhances the student experience, allowing students to become fully involved in the intellectual and cultural activities of the University. The top universities in the world encourage a high proportion of students to live in residential colleges. On-campus living provides ready access to educational resources, reduces travel times and enables students to participate fully in student life.

The design of the new student accommodation is in accord with existing University buildings and environment and is based on principles of enhancing the student experience, student accessibility and sustainability.

The development comprises three new buildings each consisting of five to seven storeys:

- A northern building providing one-bedroom apartments, located separately and discreetly with views to King's Park; and
- A central building and a southern building providing studio apartments.



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## Delivering new student amenities at Currie Hall

Featuring a modern fit out, the design will rejuvenate and complement the existing buildings and provide students studying at the University with new amenities close to campus including:

- Visitor lobbies and a formal common room for each of the buildings
- Common rooms and a common-use kitchen/dining area for each bedroom cluster
- Multi-purpose rooms including media rooms and games room
- New central courtyard for resident students to enjoy
- Modern laundry facilities
- Café and alfresco areas
- Undercroft parking and bicycle storage

## Creating and enhancing the landscape

The development has a key focus on the landscape and presents the opportunity to expand upon the theme of the 'university in a park'. Three major courtyard spaces will be created with the opportunity to significantly enhance the landscape environment.

Well designed landscaping will create inviting, well observed pathways throughout the student accommodation, connecting Currie Hall with the University's Crawley campus and the overall college precinct.

The landscape will provide a variety of outdoor amenities to cater for passive and active recreation, student engagement, as well as areas for students to enjoy quiet reflection.

## Accessibility, sustainability and transport

The design and building contract has been aimed at developing a Five Star Green Star rating – a benchmark in sustainable development. In addition, more student accommodation on campus will help ensure transport to and from campus is

## Fast facts

Currie Hall is the only student accommodation college owned and operated by the University where some 250 university students of all ages, interests and cultural backgrounds live, study and socialise together. Currie Hall is located opposite the University's Crawley campus.

The University made a successful submission under the NRAS program for 1000 dwellings to provide affordable student accommodation. This development marks the first stage of the NRAS development at the University.

A total of 515 new high-quality, self-catering student accommodation dwellings will be constructed.

Features include undercroft car parking and secure bicycle storage for up to 200 bikes.

Builder: Probuild

Architect: Hassell

reduced overall. On-campus accommodation also provides students with access to the University's amenities at any time of day.

The development also comprises 182 car bays, situated predominantly as undercroft parking and at the rear of the Currie Hall site. The University encourages alternative transport options and this is supported with the inclusion of secure bicycle storage for up to 200 bikes.

Each of the new student accommodation buildings will comply with building codes and will provide improved accessibility and accommodation options for students wishing to live close to the Crawley campus.

## For more information

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This development is supported by the Australian Government under the National Rental Affordability Scheme.