

# Ballina High School Redevelopment

## Major Capital Works Monthly Update March 2016

### Summary

Following the February 2015 State election commitment the Department of Education announced its decision to build a new school that combines students in years 7 to 12 from Ballina High School (Ballina High) and Southern Cross School K -12 (Southern Cross) in one location. New school and community facilities will be built on the existing Ballina High School site and will be completed to commence the 2019 school year.

This site was prioritised as much of its buildings are in need of refurbishment and its central location promotes opportunities for sharing of community and recreation facilities with the wider community.

Southern Cross will continue to cater for students in years K to 6 and will be the site for all distance education in Ballina.

### Key tasks completed to date

- Stage 1 Initial information sharing to and preliminary feedback from the broader community (February to July 2015). This included the announcement of the new school and information presentations of the project benefits.
- Stage 2 consultation: workshops, presentations and focus groups with Ballina High and Southern Cross Executives, P&Cs, Ballina Shire Council, Ballina/ Cabbage Tree Island Aboriginal Educational Consultative Group, surrounding schools and wider community were conducted (September to December 2015).
- Feedback from Stages 1 and 2 was fed in to the proposed draft concept Master Plan.

### Key tasks to be undertaken in April - June 2016

- The concept Master Plan is in the process of being finalised ready for school and community feedback with extensive consultation (including information booths and workshops) commencing in May 2016.
- The design will be further developed in the Schematic Design stage.
- A Project specific website will be launched providing updates and upcoming dates / times for school and community information booths.

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Image 1: Draft Concept Master Plan showing possible location of the new school.