What is the Kyneton Hospital?

Kyneton District Hospital is included in the Victorian Heritage Register and is of historical, social and architectural importance to the State of Victoria. It is one of Victoria's earliest country hospitals and was constructed when Kyneton became a service centre to the surrounding goldmining activity. The central bluestone wing is the earliest section and was constructed in 1854, with the east wing and mortuary constructed by 1861 and the west wing added in 1864. The cast iron verandah was added in 1910.

What has happened?

On 28 April 2022, Heritage Victoria issued a permit for works to the Kyneton District Hospital which has been vacant since 2010. The works are associated with the development of an aged care facility at the place. The aged care facility itself will be located on land to the west of the VHR registration and the heritage buildings will be adapted for use as offices, hospitality and function areas. This will include minor new development as well as internal works and substantial conservation works. The areas around the buildings will be landscaped for use as parkland, seating and carparking.

The new works are mainly to ensure the buildings are compliant with various codes and to allow for their reuse in a way which is compatible with their significance. The conservation works will ensure the buildings are appropriately repaired and maintained and the significance of the place is protected into the future. The location of the aged care facilities away from the heritage buildings allows for the setting to be maintained and enhanced.

What happens next?

The permits allows for works to commence once the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria has been notified and the relevant conditions have been met.