



Birdwood Park RSL Life Care

Newcastle NSW

Client: RSL Life Care

Budget: Approx \$60 million

Role: Principal Design Consultant

Type: Vertical Retirement Development

Completed: 2020

The RSL Life Care Birdwood Park development is Newcastle's first integrated vertical village. The project incorporates a 60 bed RACF and 74 ILU's on an inner urban site that is part of a larger masterplan including Hotel, Child Care Facility and Commercial Office Tower.

The facility is adjacent to Birdwood park, a remnant green space within the city, and an existing large isolated residential tower building to the north. The facility provides for a retail space at ground level which effectively screens the two storey carpark which provides a podium to the two storey RACF facility. These two components form the base to the building and are clad in more traditional masonry and sandstone which grounds the building into the existing urban fabric. The RACF opens to the landscaped terrace on three sides with glazed living spaces and balconies addressing the frontage to Little King Street.

The ILU's are distributed over ten levels with a lighter cladding palette allowing the tower to be more recessive. A large community centre is located on the top floor with stunning views to the harbour and coastline.