

Police to move while station built

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The base of operations for New Plymouth police will be on the move in the new year.

While the new \$14 million building is being built on the existing site, the station operations will shift to a new waterfront premises on St Aubyn St.

The shift is being co-ordinated by senior sergeant and tactical co-ordinator Terry Van Dillen and police area executive officer Karen Drysdale.

"This whole [building] where we are now will all get demolished and that's where the new station is going," Mr Van Dillen said.

Buildings being demolished to make way for the new complex include the main station and the white house facing Robe St.

"We have to move completely out of this site and then hand it over to the contractor," Mr Van Dillen said.

At the same time a base of operations in the old Fitness Company building on the corner of Dawson and St Aubyn streets needs to be set up.

Operations will start in the waterfront location on January 23.

"We will not have loss of



The plan: An artist's impression of what the new police station will look like.

Photo: SUPPLIED

services in that time," says Mrs Drysdale.

All staff will get rid of unnecessary items for the move as all the furniture and electronics in the new two-storey station will be new.

It will roughly be twice the size

of the old station.

Features include wireless internet, new cells, air conditioning, a lift and a general office area that is an open plan design.

"There'll be a better work flow and having everyone together in the one spot will make a big differ-

ence," Mr Van Dillen said.

The waterfront premises will be used for anywhere between 12 to 14 months.

Operations centred on floors two and four of the Atkinson building will move into the new building when it is completed.

When the station shifts to the waterfront a shuffle will take place. Only the fourth floor will remain used by the police.

Services will be divided between the temporary station, the fourth floor and traffic and alcohol operations based at Bell Block.