

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# Clearer Picture Emerges for Key Waterfront Sites

## Competition Review Completed

A detailed review of entries from the Hobart Waterfront International Design Competition has been completed.

The review suggests a number of options for improving activity and revitalising the area between the Theatre Royal and the Hobart waterfront, with specific approaches for some sites and some suggested priorities and timing.

The review was commissioned by the Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority and was conducted by a three-member panel comprising a nationally renowned architect, landscape architect and urban designer.

“The review does an excellent job of turning hundreds of ideas and concepts generated by the competition into action items for key sites in this neglected and under-utilised part of our city,” said Jeff Gilmore, Chief Executive, Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority.

“The report is ideal for anyone interested in the way our city is evolving because it takes broad design concepts and explains how they can be turned into actions through sensible planning and development activities.”

The review was led by Professor Geoffrey London, former Chair of the Jury for the Hobart Waterfront International Design Competition.

Prof London was joined by former Jury member and leading landscape architect Catherin Bull and Barrie Shelton, a Member of the Sullivans Cove Design Panel and author of the Hobart Waterfront Urban Design Framework 2004.

The report contains an analysis of the broad themes that emerged from the 280 competition entries with particular emphasis on four key locations:

- Wapping Corner – redevelopment of this site will activate the corner of Collins and Campbell streets;
- City Hall and Market Place – redevelopment of this area will increase pedestrian movement and introduce daily activity;
- Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery and Dunn Place car park – redevelopment will create a worthy setting for the State’s major cultural institution; and

- The Docks – Improvement of the area in and around the docks will activate the Cove around the waters edge and improve the visitor experience.

“The Review Panel has done an outstanding job in analysing all the entries from the design competition and considering how the options and ideas can work in this complex and challenging part of the Cove,” Mr Gilmore said.

“It is especially pleasing to see that a range of options for development is explored for each of the four key sites – there is more than one way to build a better connection between the city centre and the waters edge.

“Flexibility is the key as we consider the future of this area. Our door is always open to good ideas as long as they are appropriate to the size and scale of the waterfront. We support a design philosophy built around the 3 M’s – many minor moves.

“Importantly, the Authority is pleased to see confirmation TMAG will continue to play a vital role at the heart of the Cove’s cultural development.

“This review comes at an important time in the ongoing evolution of Sullivans Cove, following the recent announcement that the Railyards is the Government’s preferred location for a new Royal Hobart Hospital and the launch of a tender process for redevelopment of a new Brooke St Pier.”

The review, titled ‘Directions: Hobart Waterfront International Design Competition’, is available for public viewing at the offices of the Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority, 5 Franklin Wharf, Hobart, from Monday 23 July 2007 for six weeks (10am to 4pm Monday – Friday).

Copies of the report are available free of charge on CD or can be purchased in hard copy for \$50 (inclusive of GST). The report will also be available from the Authority’s website at [www.waterfront.tas.gov.au](http://www.waterfront.tas.gov.au) from next week.

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#### **About the Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority**

The Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority is the planning authority responsible for protecting, enhancing and developing Sullivans Cove and surrounding areas. The Authority aims to preserve the unique qualities of the Hobart Waterfront, which defines the identity, vitality and image of the Tasmanian people.

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