



Tania Parkes
Tania Parkes Consulting
51 Denny Street
Latham ACT 2615

Ross Hamilton, David McDougall and Melissa Marsh
PwC Australia
GPO Box 1331
Melbourne VIC 3001

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By email to: taniaparkes@taniaparkes.com.au, ross.a.hamilton@pwc.com,
david.j.mcdougall@pwc.com, melissa.a.marsh@pwc.com.

Dear Tania, Ross, David and Melissa,

On behalf of the members of the Tasmanian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects (the Institute), we would like to thank you for inviting us to attend the Treasury Buildings Roundtable discussion on Thursday 27 February. We appreciate the thorough process that the Tasmanian Government is putting into the divestment process of the site and support the outlined Project Objectives that have been established for the site as outlined in the REOI document.

We would like to reiterate the desires that the Institute hopes will be maintained and addressed as this process continues and the REOIs are received and assessed. The Treasury complex is a significant asset and we want to ensure the following:

- good design in any proposal is valued foremost as this will ensure the complex is maintained as a quality site in the long-term;
- the heritage values of the site are maintained or developed in line with the Burra Charter;
- sustainable design is a priority;
- good procurement practices are followed, both in the initial REOI stage and then in relation to the procurement of and design and built work;
- the built assets of the site are secured and maintained for the future;
- public equity and diversity of use is considered;
- the future use of the buildings supports a vibrant and healthy community and contributes to place;
- innovation is supported, along with a strong focus on using local skills and people;

- the solution has integrity and is off the place, and speaks to the qualities that are authentic to this place;
- the broader context is considered in terms of master planning and place-making;
- the solution is a long-term investment for the State.

We would like to see the future of the Treasury complex considered in the context of its value to broader Tasmania, and we believe the state would benefit from the strategic consideration of this. The Institute believes that the buildings should only be developed via a long leasehold, and not a freehold, to enable the best future for the Treasury buildings and the State.

The other point to stress is the importance of using Tasmanian consultants, products and services wherever possible, especially given the current economic situation. We note that in the Roundtable Summary, item 4. *Uniquely Hobart, Uniquely Tasmanian*, references 'using national and international skills and ideas to imagine a Tasmanian solution.' While we acknowledge and support that the future use of the Treasury should be at a world-class standard, we argue that Tasmanians have the skills to achieve this.

We would also like to highlight the importance of peer review in assessing design aspects of proposals, and the importance of these decisions being made with architectural expertise. This is vital to ensure a quality outcome.

The Institute has produced a set of guidelines for EOI and RFTs for architectural services, and we have attached these for your reference.

We look forward to being involved in the progression of this process and would be happy to assist in any way.

Kind regards,



Shamus Mulcahy
President, Tasmanian Chapter
Australian Institute of Architects



Jennifer Nichols
Executive Director, Tasmanian Chapter
Australian Institute of Architects