

The Treasury Complex - Community Consultation Feedback Report

- Registration of Interest (Phase 1)







Community consultation feedback report

Stage 1 - Registration of Interest

1. Project overview

In November 2024 the Tasmanian Government announced that it was seeking to explore options for the repurposing of the Treasury Building at 21 Murray Street, Hobart, to deliver an innovative and sustainable long-term outcome for the Tasmanian community, whilst recognising the role that the Complex has played in Tasmania's history.

The process to investigate options and inform the repurposing of the site is being undertaken by the Tasmanian Government with support from professional adviser Cushman & Wakefield and local communication advisors Cor Comms.

The following three-phase process is being implemented for the project:

Phase 1: Registration of Interest (ROI) - open process to seek market feedback to inform subsequent phases of the process.

Phase 2: Expression of Interest (EOI) - open process to seek detailed articulation of interested Proponents' proposals.

Phase 3: Request for Tender (RFT) - Proponents shortlisted from the EOI phase will be required to provide a more comprehensive proposal that builds on their EOI response.

2. Consultation objectives

The following engagement objectives were applied to the project:

- Ensure interested stakeholders are informed of and engaged in the process.
- Actively demonstrate that the process is being undertaken as a public and transparent process.
- Ensure information about the process and its current status is easy to find and understand.
- That community and stakeholder feedback is appropriately considered and accounted for during the process.
- Establish clear and open communications with all key stakeholders.
- Minimise impacts on project timeframes arising from stakeholder concerns and complaints.





3. Phase 1 Consultation summary

A range of communication methods and engagement tools were adopted for phase one (ROI) of the project. Community feedback and input for the first phase was sought from Tuesday 6 May and concluded on Tuesday 10 June 2025.

The tools and methods applied for this work were:

- Emails / phone calls
- Direct engagement via face-to-face / online meetings.
- Newspaper advertising local publications
- Website https://www.treasurycomplexhobart.com.au/
- Local media (media releases/interviews)

4. Feedback summary

The consultancy met with a number of interested community members face-to-face and on-line.

Community

The consultancy held three meetings with community members.

A common theme expressed in discussions was the need to "...keep the integrity of the buildings and key spaces..." as it is a "...large enough precinct to have different spaces..." for different commercial activities.

Comments around "...maintaining public access or public thoroughfare..." were also prominent, as was the need to appropriately recognise the history and heritage of the site.

The "...influence of the state's convict heritage at the site..." was also a key point of conversation and if appropriately interpreted "...could be a tourism attraction and perhaps a commercial entity."

The merit of a lease rather than sale was discussed, which could provide a place for distinctly Tasmanian "...state collections ..." to be put into a "...commercial opportunity..." for public viewing. It was noted that such proposals would need "...the right partner to achieve this."

Additional comments were provided to use the site as a "...hub or link between the waterfront and the CBD..." and to..."replace the car park on the Franklin Square side of the site with an area for terraced bars and dining."

It was also suggested the complex could become a... "link between Hobart's waterfront from Brooke St into Collins St with walkways/bridges across Davey and Macquarie Streets."

City of Hobart

An open floor forum was provided for questions, concerns and suggestions with the City of Hobart which was attended by four elected officials, including the Lord Mayor.

All officials emphasised the importance of public access and creating a space that serves the whole community and heritage to be celebrated and protected.

There was a desire for a development that is more than just a hotel—suggesting uses like "...commercial or legal office space and consideration of heritage-sensitive redevelopment modelled on examples from Victoria and NSW."

There was some support for "...turning the car park between the complex and Franklin Square into public space..." and also the "...importance of community return on investment..." and "...suggested uses like shops, museums or small business spaces to ensure broad community benefit."

There was shared agreement that the redevelopment "...must be accessible, serve both locals and visitors and avoid being a single-use facility."



Email correspondence

Seven emails were received via the engagement email address. Of those, three included purely logistical information for arranging meetings/acknowledging receipt.

The Institute of Architects engaged to get a greater understanding of procurement process undertaken by the Department, which was provided by connecting them to the Cushman and Wakefield team.

The remaining three correspondents, provided support of a concept which strongly "...incorporates the importance of convict heritage of the site and state."







