

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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Funding confirmed for northern campus developments – planning and design gathers pace

Planning and design for the University of Tasmania's new northern campuses is gathering pace following today's confirmation of State Government funding.

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Community, Partnerships and Regional Development), Professor David Adams welcomed the letter, signed by Treasurer Peter Gutwein, that confirms State Government funding of \$75 million and reiterates the shared principles and objectives.

Professor Adams said the University now had formal, written confirmation of the funding from both Federal and State Governments and the project could proceed with confidence.

"The design of the new campus at West Park in Burnie is well advanced. We are now focussing on the design proposals for the Inveresk campus," Professor Adams said.

"We are working closely with our colleagues at local, state and federal levels to ensure the campus development complements plans for the broader Launceston city and delivers a world-class education precinct.

"There will be extensive consultation as part of the design process, so people will have the opportunity to have their say about the look and feel of the new campus, as well as about issues such as parking and access."

A roundtable discussion between University representatives and counterparts from the City of Launceston, State Government and Federal Government will take place to set out the timeframes and milestones for development.

Professor Adams celebrated the significant progress made so far and said the University was maintaining momentum on the northern developments as a priority.

The new campuses are projected to generate more than 2,600 jobs during the construction phase and 450 ongoing jobs and to stimulate more than \$1 billion in direct and indirect economic benefit.

The University aspires to attract 12,000 more students to its northern campuses over the next 10 years. Offering shorter, more flexible and industry relevant associate degree courses is part of that ambition. The first of these new degrees will be offered in 2017 in Agribusiness and Applied Business.

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