

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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University submits revised DA on student accommodation project

The University of Tasmania today confirmed it had submitted a revised development application (DA) for the \$75 million student accommodation project planned for Melville Street, Hobart.

The project is designed to help revitalise Hobart's inner city and meet the University's mission to provide higher education for increasing numbers of Tasmanians.

The Melville Street project will be built with funding from the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS), the University, and includes in-kind support from State Government.

The project will include 430 student apartments, a café, a University information centre, a public plaza, function rooms, secure bicycle facilities and be intersected by pedestrian thoroughfares. The plan allows for 12 floors above Brisbane Street.

The revised DA accommodates changes to the project, including a reduction in height and number of car parking spaces at the site.

University Chief Operating Officer David Clerk said those changes were a result of ongoing consultation.

"It is not unusual on a project of this scale that refinements are identified as it progresses," Mr Clerk said. "We are very pleased to have reached a point of lodging a revised DA for consideration by the council and the broader community."

The site, at the corner of Melville and Elizabeth streets, is currently home to the Farm Gate Market, which by agreement will relocate to a site in Bathurst Street, ahead of the start of construction. Project timelines will be contingent upon the passage of the DA.

The apartments are planned for occupancy at the start of 2016.

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