

MEDIA RELEASE

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LEADING EXPERTS TO OVERVIEW DESIGNS FOR BARANGAROO

The NSW Minister for Planning and Redfern Waterloo, Kristina Keneally, has appointed a panel of experts in the fields of architecture, landscape and culture to overview the design of Barangaroo, Sydney's planned new city waterfront.

The Design Excellence Review Panel will provide informed urban design and public domain advice as the Barangaroo development moves into the planning design and delivery phase.

A project of the importance and potential of Barangaroo requires independent review throughout its renewal and the NSW Government has established this panel to review the public domain, urban design and major built form for each stage of the development.

The Design Excellence Review Panel will replace the previous Design Review and Public Domain Review Panels both chaired by former Prime Minister, Paul Keating, and set up in 2008 to provide advice on the overall design and the public open space parts of the site.

Integrating the design excellence review of the public domain and built form as they evolve means there will be clarity and a clear focus to ensure world benchmarks are achieved.

The Design Excellence Review Panel members include:

- The Hon Paul Keating (Chair)
- Chris Johnson (Deputy Chair)
- Angelo Candalepas, Architect
- Bridget Smyth, Architect and Urban Designer
- Oi Choong, Landscape Architect
- Professor James Weirick, Landscape Architect
- Leo Schofield, Cultural Adviser

"Barangaroo can become the new design and sustainability lead addition to Sydney's world renowned attractions and redefine a new dynamic city waterfront. It must deliver world class benchmarks in design and environmental sustainability," John Tabart, Chief Executive of the Barangaroo Delivery Authority said.

"Barangaroo involves major investment by the private sector in partnership with the State and will substantially contribute to Sydney's economic future."

The Design Review Panel will advise the Minister and work with the Barangaroo Delivery Authority Board, which is chaired by Michael Collins.

The members of the new Panel have the proven skills and expertise to take on this task with a mix of highly experienced, eminent people who have had a long standing role in the project, together with new people who bring fresh expertise and ideas.

Construction is expected to commence at Barangaroo in 2011.

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Biographies of the members of the Barangaroo Design Review Panel

The Hon. Paul J. Keating

Elected to the Australian Parliament in 1969 as Member for Blaxland, Mr Keating became the youngest Federal Minister in the Whitlam Cabinet of 1975. In 1983 Mr Keating became Treasurer. From 1991 until 1996, Mr Keating served as Prime Minister of Australia. Mr Keating has had a lifelong academic interest in architecture and urban design and was associated with the Barangaroo site and its prospects ahead of the Carr Government's announcement to turn the former wharf area into open public domain and commercial precinct.

Chris Johnson, Architect

Chris Johnson is the former NSW Government Architect and held senior positions at the Department of Planning from 2005 to 2009. His work for the Department delivered long-term visions and plans for six regional cities — Wollongong, Gosford, Parramatta, Liverpool, Penrith and Newcastle. Chris Johnson's responsibilities have included Chair of the Sydney Olympic Park Design Review Panel and the Sydney Harbour Design Review Panel. He is Past President of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects (NSW Chapter), and has been a member of the Central Sydney Planning Committee, Heritage Council of NSW, and the NSW Architects Registration Board.

Angelo Candalepas, Architect

Angelo Candalepas runs a practice of around 20 people in Sydney and is Adjunct Professor of Architecture at the University of New South Wales since 2004. Since commencing Candalepas Associates in 1999, the practice has been awarded many architecture awards and competitions. His practice has been the subject of numerous exhibitions and publications in Australia and abroad.

Bridget Smyth, Director Design City of Sydney

Ms. Smyth is currently Director Design at the City Of Sydney and leads the City's urban design team and its implementation of the Sustainable Sydney 2030 vision. Previously the Director of Urban Design at the Olympic Coordination Authority, Ms Smyth has been on the Board of Object (Australian Centre for Craft and Design), the 2006 and 2007 Capital Infrastructure Committee of Arts NSW and the Australian Institute of Architects Venice Biennale Committee (2005 - 2009). She holds a Masters Degree in Design (Urban Design) from the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University and degrees in Architecture, Planning and Design from the University of Melbourne and was the recipient of the 2001 Max Kelly Scholarship awarded by the NSW Ministry for the Arts.

Oi Choong, Landscape Architect

Oi has over 30 years experience as a Landscape Architect in the public and private sectors. She has extensive experience in the design of major landscape and public domain projects and is the recipient of numerous national and international landscape project awards. As Director of CONTEXT, a leading Sydney based Landscape Architectural practice, Oi has been actively involved in the landscape transformation of Sydney's major public spaces, parklands, streetscapes and cultural institutions including Centennial Parklands, Sydney Olympic Park, The Rocks and Walsh Bay. She has also contributed to major projects throughout Australia and overseas including improvements to the Singapore River (Singapore Tourism Board), Kuching Waterfront (East Malaysia) Nanjing Riverfront (China) and Dubai Waterfront (UAE).



Professor James Weirick, Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of New South Wales

Prior to his appointment as Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of NSW in 1991, James Weirick held the position of Head of Landscape Architecture at RMIT University. A graduate of the MLA Program at Harvard University, Professor Weirick now teaches urban landscape design, the history of landscape architecture and the theory and practice of landscape design. Professor Weirick has been a member of the Premier's Urban Design Advisory Committee and his work with the City of Sydney has included membership of the Design Jury for the Carlton United Brewery site on Broadway and the Ultimo Aquatic Centre.

Leo Schofield, Cultural Adviser

Leo Schofield's prominent role in Australian public life began in 1993 when he was appointed Artistic Director of the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts. He was appointed Director of the Sydney Festival, organising four highly successful annual festivals between 1998 and 2001. He was also the Artistic Director of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Arts Festival and the Sydney 2000 Paralympics Arts Festival. Mr. Schofield has also served as Artistic Director of Sydney's renowned New Year's Eve celebrations for 2002, 2003 and in 2004. Prior to organising and directing these landmark cultural events, Mr. Schofield spent twenty-five years in the advertising and communications industry. In 2000, he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for services to the Sydney and Melbourne Festivals, to conservation and heritage and for fundraising for the arts.

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