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## **Restored and renewed Forestry building to improve access and create opportunities for Tasmanians**

The University of Tasmania's plans to restore the former Forestry Tasmania building and create an inner-city hub for learning are taking the next step with the development application now publicly advertised.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Rufus Black said the renewed Forestry building would mean more Tasmanians could access more educational opportunities in state-of-the-art facilities.

"This renewal of an amazing piece of Hobart's architecture is about bringing the University to the people and helping more Tasmanians unlock the power of education," Professor Black said.

"The site is perfectly located. It's close to parking, student accommodation and all the services students need. People who work in the city can study a short course at lunchtime or after work, or balance work and part time study. It's also close to existing transport, which means that the area of Greater Hobart we can service with the facility is much bigger than the current Sandy Bay campus.

"If we want to improve education rates in Tasmania, it is critical we tackle every barrier to access."

The Forestry building will host the business, economics, and law faculties as well as administrative offices. The new, state-of-the-art facilities will give students an edge in their education and set them up with life-changing skills and opportunities.

"This is another exciting step as we reimagine the role of the University and its relationship with Hobart and the rest of the State. This renewed facility will complement existing facilities such as the Medical Science Precinct, the Hedberg, the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies and the existing student accommodation in the city.

"In addition to that, it will be a massive boost to the CBD, with additional foot traffic supporting businesses in the area.

"When it's finished, 300 staff and 3000 students will work and study in the building, which will have a big and positive impact for traders in that part of the city."

Professor Black said the development application was open for community feedback and would be considered by City of Hobart Council later in the year.

Tasmanian Small Business Council CEO, Robert Mallett, said that the Forestry building renewal was an opportunity to breathe new life into the CBD.

"The Forestry building renewal will generate huge opportunities for small business and I would encourage the business community to embrace the possibilities," Mr Mallett said.

"What is really exciting is small business has the chance to work with the University on this project and make sure it reflects their needs and their vision for the CBD over the next ten to twenty years."

**Artist impressions of the building are available for download here:**

<https://cloudstor.aarnet.edu.au/plus/s/ninUCh3oT9li2mJ>

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