



# **The Hon Chris Hartcher**

## **Minister for Resources and Energy**

### **Special Minister of State**

### **Minister for the Central Coast**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Friday 16 August 2013

### **WINNING CONCEPT DESIGN FOR PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE GOES TO COUNCIL**

The winning Concept Design for a Regional Performing Arts Centre and Conservatorium for Gosford will be discussed by Gosford City Council at a meeting next Tuesday.

The Concept Design is a result of the Central Coast Regional Development Corporation's (CCRDC) architectural design competition – launched in May – which invited three prominent architects to submit a design proposal for the Centre.

Architectural firm Perumal Pedavoli Architects were selected by an independent panel for their innovation, energy efficiency, design and planning.

Central Coast Minister, Chris Hartcher said bringing the winning Concept Design to Council is a welcome and important step in achieving the community's vision for a prosperous, liveable and well-coordinated Central Coast.

"A Regional Performing Arts Centre will help stimulate commercial activity, increase attendance to cultural events, and boost cultural tourism," Mr Hartcher said.

"The Concept Design for the Centre includes a multipurpose auditorium seating up to 1,000 people, a studio accommodating 200 people and a foyer space suitable for exhibitions.

"Individual teaching spaces, library facilities, rehearsal rooms and a 150-seat performance space are all part of the Concept Design for the Conservatorium."

Chairman of the CCRDC, John Taylor says the organisation has been working cooperatively with Gosford City Council, the community, business and government to realise the community's future aspirations for the area.

"The proposed Regional Performing Arts Centre and Conservatorium will have great significance to the revitalisation of Gosford, moving the Waterfront Precinct forward. The project delivers on the community's vision for major cultural development in the region," Mr Taylor said.

"We are now one step closer to turning vision into action and – if endorsed by Gosford City Council – we will be looking to secure Federal funding in the vicinity of \$36 million to construct both buildings."

Member for Gosford, Chris Holstein said the proposed Centre would help meet the community's call for a revitalisation of Gosford.

“The community will welcome that this long awaited project is finally another step closer to fruition,” Mr Holstein said.

The proposed Centre would be located on Crown Land adjacent to the Gosford Memorial Park.

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