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SALE OF SITE IN GOSFORD TO DELIVER 600 JOBS

Government Property NSW CEO Brett Newman and Central Coast Regional Development Corporation (CCRDC) Chairman Graeme Inchley today announced that the NSW Government has agreed to sell a portion of land at the former Gosford school site to Doma Group, which will be effective upon Doma Group and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) entering into the agreement for the construction and delivery of the ATO's new premises.

This follows a competitive Expression of Interest and Tender process, and the announcement by the Federal Treasurer last week that the ATO had selected the site as its preferred location to house 600 ATO employees from 2017.

Mr Inchley said the announcement reflected the NSW Government's commitment to growing Gosford as a regional centre for employment and economic development.

"We are thrilled to be a part of this exciting economic growth story," he said. "With the ATO as an anchor tenant, the proposed development will attract wider commercial interest to the site, boosting jobs, spending and economic growth in Gosford."

The proposed development occupies only part of former school site, which itself is part of the much larger "Gosford Waterfront" precinct. According to the 2014 Gosford Waterfront Development Control Plan, it is proposed that the Waterfront precinct will include a waterfront Cultural Hub (on Crown Land adjacent to the former school site), as well as waterfront parklands.

Although a final decision on the location and development of the Cultural Hub rests with Gosford Council, CCRDC has funded and coordinated a design competition for a new Regional Performing Arts and Conference Centre at the Cultural Hub site, and has been assisting Gosford City Council in their preparation of a funding application to the Commonwealth Government under the National Stronger Regions Fund.

The NSW Government has also supported construction of the new arts and conference facility, committing \$10 million towards the proposal at the election in March this year.

Mr Inchley said, "The opportunities for the Waterfront precinct include the Cultural Hub, revitalised parklands, the commercial site that will house the ATO, and more, all of which will play an important role in revitalising Gosford, and delivering the community's vision for a transformed regional city."

Mr Newman said the sale process for the portion of the former school site is being undertaken by Government Property NSW, in collaboration with the CCRDC and the Department of Education, which nominated the site as surplus to needs following the relocation of students to new facilities at Faunce Street, Gosford.

Mr Newman said, "By carefully managing the sale process, GPNSW has been able to deliver the former Gosford school site as the location of the new ATO premises, bringing 600 ongoing jobs for the region, and a much wider economic boost."

The ATO building is estimated to be completed in 2017. GPNSW is reviewing options for the remaining portion of the Mann Street site.

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