

July 2023

Latest news on  
Geelong Convention  
and Exhibition  
Centre



## Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre - Community Update - 31 July

### Preferred bidder

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Plenary Conventions who will lead the development of the Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre precinct located between Western Beach Road and Smythe Street in central Geelong.

Preliminary site works are underway. Construction is set to begin shortly to transform the 1.6-hectare site delivering a world-class facility and new precinct for Geelong.

The precinct will include a purpose-built convention and exhibition space incorporating a 1,000-seat venue, two large exhibition spaces, meeting rooms, conference facilities and flexible event spaces.

It will also be home to retail spaces for food and beverage offerings and a large public plaza, as well as a 200-room hotel under the internationally renowned Crowne Plaza brand.

To view the designs and find out more, visit the [project webpage](#).

### Community input

Thank you to the community and many organisations in Geelong who have already participated in consultation activities about the project, including commenting on key design principles and objectives for the precinct.

Responding to what we've heard to date, government has adopted some key project and design principles for the project which Plenary Conventions are now required to deliver.

There will be further opportunities for the community to learn more about the project now that Plenary Conventions has been announced and designs revealed.

More details of these opportunities will be released as the project progresses.

## **Works update**

Archaeological investigation works are now complete. Further detailed site investigation works will continue into August 2023.

More substantive works across the whole site are expected to begin in August 2023, including the installation of site hoarding around the site perimeter.

## **Parking**

Currently, half of the site is closed for parking due to the detailed site investigation works, during this time we are looking to maintain as much carparking on site as possible. The entire site will be closed at the commencement of construction in August 2023. Alternative arrangements have been put in place which Deakin University will continue to communicate to its staff and students.

Deakin are progressing with the construction of a replacement car park facility adjacent to precinct site. This is scheduled to be completed in late 2023.

The precinct will support multi-modal transport, noting the proximity (400m) of the site to Geelong Train Station, a significant number of Geelong bus routes and central Geelong's current and proposed main active transport routes. An underground carpark is included in the final design to fulfil the requirements of the Central Geelong Framework Plan to provide car parking for the Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre, as well as the hotel and any other elements of the precinct. Most of this parking will be available as public parking outside of scheduled events at the Centre.

## **More information**

Visit: [development.vic.gov.au/gcec](https://development.vic.gov.au/gcec)

Email: [gcec@development.vic.gov.au](mailto:gcec@development.vic.gov.au)