



The Hon Richard Marles MP
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Defence
Federal Member for Corio



The Hon Harriet Shing MP
Minister for Water, Regional
Development, Commonwealth
Games Legacy and Equality



Cr Trent Sullivan
Mayor of City of Greater
Geelong

Libby Coker MP
Federal Member for Corangamite

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 21 April 2023

Queenscliff Ferry Terminal opens to public

The multi-million Queenscliff Ferry Terminal has officially opened, offering passengers a world class gateway to Geelong, the Bellarine and the Great Ocean Road.

Federal Member for Corio, The Hon Richard Marles MP, joined Federal Member for Corangamite Libby Coker MP and Member for Bellarine Alison Marchant MP, representing Victorian Minister for Regional Development at the formal opening of the completed ferry terminal redevelopment supported by the Geelong City Deal.

The new terminal building and site feature modern facilities and bathrooms, safer access, improved car parking, function rooms, a retail space and indoor and outdoor dining offering spectacular views of Port Phillip Bay and Port Phillip Heads.

The new terminal building was designed by F2 Architecture and built by Kane Construction. The terminal opened prior to completion in December 2022 to accommodate high visitor numbers to the region over the summer peak season.

The final stage of the project completed this year delivered a new public boardwalk and gantry providing an accessible and safe route for passengers to board and disembark the ferry as well as an upper level of the terminal building and other outdoor elements.

The completion of the redevelopment delivers a safer and more enjoyable experience for motorists and pedestrians using the car and passenger ferry service.

The Queenscliff Ferry Terminal supported 71 new jobs during construction and an additional 22 new ongoing jobs within the ferry operations.

Searoad Ferries is the iconic car and passenger ferry service between Sorrento and Queenscliff in Melbourne's Port Phillip Bay.

Operating since 1987, the service carries more than 250,000 vehicles and 960,000 people every year making it the busiest car and passenger ferry service in Australia.

The redevelopment is jointly funded under the Geelong City Deal with the Australian Government contributing \$10 million and Searoad Ferries contributing the balance of project costs.

The \$500 million Geelong City Deal is a collaborative plan to transform Geelong and the Great Ocean Road by the Australian and Victorian governments, and the City of Greater Geelong.

For more information on the Geelong City Deal, visit www.citydeals.infrastructure.gov.au/geelong

Quote attributable to Federal Member for Corio, The Hon Richard Marles MP:

“The Queenscliff Ferry Terminal will open up another gateway into our beautiful city of Geelong and its surrounds.

The modern new terminal along with the many thousands of passengers that Searoad Ferries will bring is going to be great for local tourism and business.

A great win for Greater Geelong.”

Quote attributable to Federal Member for Corangamite, Libby Coker MP:

“From the first crossing in 1987 to the opening of this new facility today, the ferry service in Queenscliff has connected people on both sides of Port Phillip Bay. This new terminal will secure local jobs and boost tourism in our region.

“It represents a renewed gateway to the Bellarine, the Surf Coast, Geelong, and the Great Ocean Road.”

Quote attributable to Victorian Minister for Regional Development, Harriet Shing MP:

“This Geelong City Deal project provides an economic boost to the region – creating more jobs and more reasons for people to experience this world-class gateway to Geelong and the Great Ocean Road.”

Quote attributable to Victorian Member for Bellarine, Alison Marchant MP:

“This exciting development creates an unbeatable experience for locals and visitors and delivers a tourism drawcard for the region that will strengthen the local economy and build new jobs in our communities.”

Quote attributable to CEO at Searoad Ferries, Matt McDonald:

“The new Queenscliff Ferry Terminal provides Searoad Ferries’ customers with a world-class experience. It’s delivered an improved infrastructure project between government and the private sector that holds enormous potential for creating jobs and boosting the local economy.”

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