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- 8.NOV 2016

Professor Peter Rathjen
Vice-Chancellor
University of Tasmania
Private Bag 51
HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Professor Rathjen

I am writing to affirm the Governments' in-principle support for the University of Tasmania's Hobart Science and Technology Precinct proposal.

As you are aware, my Government indicated support for the Science and Technology Precinct proposal in its submission last year to an audit of major national infrastructure initiatives by Infrastructure Australia. At that time, we noted that the project would help revitalise the Tasmanian economy, support increasing productivity by raising the State's educational attainment levels, and attract migrants from interstate and overseas. By replacing ageing current infrastructure, the project would also continue the University's long-term strategy to invest in an expanded campus in the Hobart CBD, building a critical mass of research and teaching excellence while supporting the city's revitalisation and growth.

I note that a draft Business Case for the Science and Technology Precinct, marked Commercial - in - Confidence, has been provided to my departmental officials s.27

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Given the time the Government has had to consider this proposal and the fact that it is still under development by the University and being assessed by Infrastructure Australia, I am unable to commit to a contribution at this stage

However, my Government would welcome the opportunity to continue to work closely with the University over coming months to identify practical options to assist the project in proceeding. To that end, I have agreed that senior officials from the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Department of State Growth will work on this issue with you and your team.

I wish you well in finalising the proposal.

Yours sincerely

Will Hodgman MP
Premier