



Don Harwin
Minister for the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 29 August 2019

WORK TO BEGIN AS AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM CONFIRMS BUILDER

Minister for the Arts Don Harwin has today announced Kane Constructions as the successful tenderer to develop the next stage of the Australian Museum's \$57.5 million redevelopment known as *Project Discover*.

Minister Harwin said the NSW Government's \$50.5 million contribution to the transformation of Australia's first museum will be money well spent.

"This major investment will ensure the Australian Museum has world-class museum exhibition spaces and new education facilities for visitors to our State as well as residents to enjoy," Mr Harwin said.

"As the NSW Government continues to deliver our visionary infrastructure plan, I am thrilled the Australian Museum can now take the next step towards becoming a leading scientific and cultural icon for the nation."

The \$57.5 million renovation will significantly expand the Museum's public floor space and deliver a better experience for visitors including a major new touring exhibition hall; new flexible education spaces; Grand Hall and more public amenities.

Director & CEO of the Australian Museum, Kim McKay said the project is running on time for its blockbuster opening exhibition.

"Project Discover will deliver a new experience at the Australian Museum, ensuring we will be ready to host the internationally acclaimed *Tutankhamun: Treasures of the Golden Pharaoh* exhibition in early 2021," Ms McKay said.

Kane Constructions previously built the Australian Museum's award-winning Crystal Hall glass entry pavilion and is a multi-award winning company that has extensive experience in building quality contemporary buildings.

The museum temporarily closed its doors to the public on 19 August 2019 for approximately 12 months with construction work to officially commence in September.

For more information about the expansion plans visit [Australian Museum](https://www.australianmuseum.gov.au).

MEDIA: Chris Lawrence | 0439 434 863