

Technical Advisory Consultative Committee

Meeting #1 Wednesday 19 January 2022

Chair's Summary

The TasPorts Technical Advisory Consultative Committee (TACC) held its first meeting by Webex on the 19th January. TasPorts has established the TACC as part of its commitment to transparent community consultation. The Committee will deal specifically with providing advice to TasPorts on dredging and dredge spoil disposal. Additional information on the TACC may be found at [Technical Advisory Committee \(tasports.com.au\)](https://tasports.com.au/technical-advisory-committee). This inaugural meeting covered three issues: the draft TORs for the TACC, a briefing of project QuayLink, and the views and concerns of stakeholders on proposed dredging activities.

Present were representatives from TasPorts (Charlie Livesey, Andrew Shelveton and Sam Wilson-Haffenden), the commercial fishing industry/Tasmanian Seafood industry Council (Stuart Richie), Devonport City Council (Brad Perera), Cradle Coast Authority (Sheree Vertigan), the EPA (Fionna Bourne), the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (Sven Frijlink), and Mersey Yacht Club (Terry Travers). The TACC was independently Chaired by Ian Cartwright.

The Committee agreed that the draft TORs were acceptable and were adopted. It was agreed that proper environmental procedures must be in place to effectively manage impacts of the dredging on the marine environment and the community. Further, these procedures should be fully developed before dredging is due to commence in the second half of 2022.

TasPorts presented an overview of the TasPorts QuayLink investment with a focus on the TasPorts Devonport East Terminal 3 Dredging Reclaim Project (see [Devonport Quaylink \(tasports.com.au\)](https://tasports.com.au/devonport-quaylink) for additional information). Attention was drawn to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submitted to the EPA, which is currently open for public comment until 5 February 2022. TACC members were encouraged to consider the EIS and, if appropriate, provide personal submissions. Relatively localised dredging will occur in relation to Terminal 3, with all dredge spoil disposed of onshore, either as part of the planned reclamation or at Devonport Airport.

TACC members raised a number of queries relating to sediment analysis, modelling of sediment transport and settlement, turbidity thresholds, and potential settlement of sediment outside entrance channel. In the case of the latter, there was particular concern raised about the transport of sediment into the entrance channel and beyond. Following discussion and preliminary responses by TasPorts to the queries raised, the Committee agreed that TasPorts would present additional information on these topics at the next TACC meeting for clarification and further discussion. It was noted that there was no risk from run-off from reclaimed areas, as only rocks and other consolidated material will be re-used. An armour wall with geofabric will be installed prior to the placement of any material that may be re-used. All silt material will be removed and stored landside for testing and dewatering in preparation for transportation offsite.

The next TACC meeting will be held in February and discussion will be focused on the range of issues raised during the meeting and the additional information to be provided by TasPorts.