

12 February 2016



Independent Review of Labrador Channel Extension

GCWA RESPONSE TO FINAL REPORT

The independent review was initiated following a request by the Honourable Mark Bailey MP, Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply. It looked at aspects of safety, environment, amenity, waterways planning and community views on the Labrador Channel extension and involved interviews with interest groups and an online public survey.

GCWA considers that the review, undertaken by global consultancy, Aurecon Australasia Pty Ltd, has successfully achieved the objectives of the request by the Minister. Importantly, it concluded that the Authority had lawfully secured all the necessary approvals to extend the Labrador Channel.

WAY FORWARD

GCWA intends to move forward with project works in the Southern Broadwater over the coming years using an approach that results in minimal impact for stakeholders as outlined below:

Release of the Independent Review of the Labrador Channel Extension report

- The final report will be uploaded to the GCWA web site at www.gcwa.qld.gov.au so it is publicly available and we will advise all key stakeholders.
- We will ask Aurecon to offer a face-to-face briefing on their report to the Australian Live-aboard Association.

Consultation with community

- Further community consultation will be arranged by GCWA on Speed Limits and the Channel Strategy as follow-up to the Independent Review. This consultation will fully consider concerns of stakeholders such as wind surfers and personal water craft operators regarding the future management of the Southern Broadwater.

Open space in the Southern Broadwater

- Vacant moorings located in the area west of the main channel will be removed by the Mooring Manager as part of their mooring maintenance program and remaining vessels will be offered the option to relocate to adjacent mooring fields when opportunities are available.

No dredging required

- GCWA will not carry out any dredging to achieve the Labrador Channel extension and it will be implemented through the positioning of navigational aids.

Further information

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