



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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PREMIER UNVEILS NEW DARLING HARBOUR PRECINCT

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell today unveiled Sydney's newest outdoor attraction including the city's largest public playground.

Mr O'Farrell said he was delighted to officially open Darling Quarter as the CBD's newest community precinct and a tourist destination unlike any other in the city.

"Darling Quarter will breathe new life into Darling Harbour for the next generations of visitors and inject new commercial activity into the precinct," Mr O'Farrell said.

"For the last two years Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority and Lend Lease have worked together to transform 1.5 hectares at the southern end of Darling Harbour into a world-class, \$500m redevelopment project.

"Families will appreciate a major highlight of the new development - the 4,000 square metre children's playground - which is the biggest, free playground in Sydney and the only one of its kind in Australia.

"Capitalising on aspects from some of the best children's playgrounds around the world, the space includes interactive water and lighting features, tandem slide, sand diggers, giant climbing net, balancing beams, spinning wheel, tunnels and a flying fox.

"Adding further ambience to the new development is a Community Green that will host intimate events during the summer months and a multi-purpose children's theatre and performance facility scheduled to open in early 2012.

"The rejuvenated precinct is a model of social sustainability and has reactivated Darling Harbour with a public space that is easily accessed through a new pedestrian link to and from the CBD.

"In addition to the 25 million people who visit Darling Harbour each year, the precinct will bring more than 6,000 workers to the new Commonwealth Bank headquarters.

"More than 7,000 people were employed in the construction and development of 58,000 square metres of new commercial office space, a new retail precinct and eating destination, 600-space public car park, community green and children's theatre.

"This revitalisation of Darling Harbour will ensure that Sydney's favourite playground will continue to create memories and unforgettable experiences for Sydneysiders and visitors from all over the world," Mr O'Farrell said.