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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **WATER MINISTER VISITS COMMUNITY HUB**

State Minister for Water, Peter Walsh visited Manningham on World Water Day, to check on the progress of Manningham Council's \$38 million Doncaster Hill Civic Precinct Community Hub that will incorporate the latest in water recycling technology.

The Civic Precinct Community Hub has received \$148,500 funding under the Victorian Government's Stormwater and Urban Recycling Fund (SURF) Projects for its innovative design and improved management of storm and recycled water.

SURF funding facilitated the delivery of the demonstration model that will provide a local case study to guide the way for other developers in Doncaster Hill and across Melbourne to introduce water sensitive urban design.

Minister Walsh said "Under *Living Victoria* the State government aims to drive change in how Melbourne uses stormwater, rainwater and wastewater to green our city and meet the challenges of a changing climate.

"The Doncaster Hill Civic Precinct Community Hub serves as an example of what can be achieved in innovative stormwater harvesting and water recycling - key priorities identified as part of the Ministerial Advisory Council's recently released roadmap.

"The Doncaster Hill Strategy, of which the Doncaster Hill Civic Precinct Community Hub is a component, highlights the importance of improved management of stormwater and recycled water for non-drinking purposes to increase liveability of the city and green urban spaces which compliments this year's World Water Day theme of 'Water for Cities'," he said.

Manningham Mayor Cr Geoff Gough said water is one of our most precious resources and it is a priority of Council to ensure that we continue to meet our environmental responsibilities and the community's needs in the future.

"The State Government SURF funding delivers an integrated water sensitive design vision for the Community Hub and broader Civic Precinct, with a design that is estimated will reduce water consumption by 8 million litres annually."

"Council will deliver much of the water sensitive urban design elements in-house and the total design demonstrates how an integrated approach can improve stormwater quality, reduce runoff loads to the stormwater system, restore more natural flow regimes in

downstream waterways and dramatically reduce the need for water import,” he said.

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