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Barangaroo wins best development of the year

Su-Lin Tan

Sydney's newest harbourside mixeduse precinct, Barangaroo by Lendlease, has been named Urban Taskforce's Development of the Year for 2017.

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The property development industry group's annual Development Excellence Awards, which also received entries from Melbourne, Brisbane and the Gold Coast, also awarded Mirvac's EY Centre on Sydney's George Street the best CBD office tower for the year and Charter Hall's I Parramatta Square offices in Sydney's west the best metro office development.

"Our awards specifically recognise the risk developers take to realise major projects, and Barangaroo South has battled planning delays, campaigns against it, uncertain economic times, yet it has triumphed as the most significant addition to Sydney's global economic status while being an incredibly vital people space loved by Sydneysiders," Urban Taskforce chief executive Chris Johnson said.

"With tens of thousands of workers

"With tens of thousands of workers in the most up-to-date offices in the country as well as the incredible strip of waterfront restaurants that are always full, to the shopping precincts and the residential buildings, Barangaroo South has created a successful, dynamic precinct that lifts Sydney's position as a global city."

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The panel of judges consisted of NSW government Architect Peter Poulet, Urbis planner John Wynne,

quantity surveyor John Ferrarin, Sydney Morning Herald's Carolyn Cummins and real estate financier KWC's David Tanevski.

They looked at design, economic performance, environmental commitment and innovation in determining the winners.

Barangaroo's winning edge also includes its connection to transport, including Wynyard train station and ferry wharves as well as a future new metro station.

Once-in-a-generation development that has changed Sydney forever.

Architect Peter Poulet

"We all could see that this project was a once-in-a-generation development that has changed Sydney forever," Mr Poulet said.

In retail, the judges gave the best development prize to Woolworths Crows Nest, developed by Woolworths Limited and facade-designed by addesign group.

Hyecorp Property Group's Sienna in Willoughby on Sydney's north shore took the Affordable Housing Development gong. The judges said 43 of its 74 apartments were affordable, sold at about \$700,000 or 10 per cent to 15 per cent cheaper than the suburb's full



Barangaroo's offices, shops and restaurants are a dynamic mix, say judges.

market value. Sydney's median house price is nearly \$1.2 million, according to Domain Group.

Legacy Property Group won the high-rise city apartment award for its Capitol project in Bondi Junction, while Crown Group won best metro high-rise apartments for its Parramatta tower V by Crown Group.

Helm Pty Limited has the best midrise apartment project, Laurier in Cremorne on Sydney's lower north shore.