



Media release

The Hon David Hodgett MP

Minister for Ports

Minister for Major Projects

Minister for Manufacturing

Friday 20 December 2013

Facility manager appointed for new Epping Wholesale Market

- **Plenary Asset Management appointed to deliver site management, asset maintenance and waste collection at new Epping market**
- **Contract will drive down operational costs allowing for rent reductions**

The Victorian Coalition Government has approved the appointment of a facility manager for the new Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Market at Epping in Melbourne's north.

Minister for Major Projects David Hodgett said the facility manager will be responsible for site management, asset maintenance and waste collection services at the new market.

"The appointment of Plenary Asset Management by the Melbourne Market Authority is an important step in establishing new operations at Epping and has helped drive operational efficiencies for the benefit of market businesses," Mr Hodgett said.

"This important process was critical for the new market particularly considering the massive mismanagement and budget blowouts associated with the project under the previous Labor Government.

"Plenary is a major player in Australia and North America in infrastructure service delivery and has a demonstrated track record in working cooperatively and closely with government."

Plenary has substantial experience and expertise to bring to what will be a challenging period of moving from the old market site at Footscray Road to Epping.

Plenary Asset Management Director Glenn Hay said the appointment would help the market function more efficiently and effectively.

"We saw an opportunity with this project to apply our considerable experience in transition and change management to a more traditional asset management role, but in an equally unique government environment," Mr Hay said.

Melbourne Market Authority Acting Chairman Stephen McArthur said that Plenary would be a great asset to the market.

"The appointment of Plenary utilises their specialist skills to manage the Epping asset with appropriate key performance criteria in place, leaving the Melbourne Market Authority to focus on its important tasks of tenant management and development of the new market," Mr McArthur said.

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Mr Hodgett said Plenary will commence work in early 2014 at the existing market at Footscray Road, to establish a presence in the market community.

“During transition, they will provide continuity of services at both market facilities, so that all services are ready to go when Epping begins operating in late 2014,” Mr Hodgett said.

“This early appointment will also allow Plenary to implement new service delivery arrangements even before the move to Epping.

“The move to Epping presents an opportunity to instil a culture of even greater innovation among market stakeholders.”

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