

OCTOBER 2017

## **Cbus Property's 720 Bourke Street achieves gold WELL Rating in Australian first**

Melbourne's landmark 720 Bourke Street office building was today announced the first Australian existing property to receive a WELL Certification, Gold Shell and Core rating.

The prestigious international rating is the first to go beyond sustainable building features with a focus on the health and well-being of the actual occupants of buildings.

The Docklands building, overlooking Victoria Harbour and Etihad Stadium, was awarded the prestigious rating today after Cbus Property enhanced its health and well-being features by increasing natural air to the building and installing community gardens allowing workers to grow their own food, among other initiatives.

The building features ramp access for cyclists, bike-repair facilities and a new sustainability library at 720 Bourke Street, the national headquarters of its anchor tenant, Medibank.

The WELL standard awarded by the International Well Building Institute was launched two years ago to recognise and encourage buildings that promote health, happiness, mindfulness and productivity based on scientific findings.

Innovations in seven categories are measured and include air, water, nourishment, light, fitness, comfort and mind. Under WELL's 'core and shell' classification, building structure, window locations and glazing, building proportions, heating, cooling and ventilation systems and water quality are taken in account.

Cbus Property undertook a gap analysis to ensure the WELL rating's 28 preconditions were achievable before embarking on measures to boost the well-being of the office building's occupants.

Cbus Property CEO Adrian Pozzo said the WELL rating was a recognition of 720 Bourke St's future-proof philosophy which results in buildings that can be upgraded to meet the evolving needs of its occupants and embrace new innovations.

"We are very proud of 720 Bourke Street being recognised as one of the healthiest buildings in Australia for its workers," he said.

"Our Green By Design brand is all about improving our cities for not only those that live and work in them today but also future generations."

The winner of numerous building accolades, the 16-level building completed in 2014 was designed around a light-filled atrium by Hassell and was originally designed to achieve a five-star NABERS energy rating and a six-star Green Star rating.

Australia's commercial property sector and employers have since embraced the well-being movement with buildings vying to boost their well-being credentials to lure top tenants and help them attract and retain the best employees.

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### **About Cbus Property**

Cbus Property is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cbus, the industry superannuation fund for the construction, building & allied industries, with funds under management currently exceeding \$39.0 billion. As part of the portfolio, Cbus is a significant investor in the property industry throughout Australia and has in excess of 750,000 members nationally.

Cbus Property has responsibility for the strategic performance & management of all aspects of the Cbus direct property investment business including major investments and developments in the commercial, residential and industrial sectors. The portfolio currently exceeds \$3.5 billion, with a further \$4.5 billion of development work 'in hand', making Cbus Property one of Australia's leading integrated property investors in Australia.

Cbus Property has extensive experience in undertaking sustainable initiatives within Australia and is committed to utilising its considerable experience in investment and delivery of developments that provide a benchmark for both economical and environmental sustainability.

For further information visit: [www.cbustproperty.com.au](http://www.cbustproperty.com.au)