6 February 2011

OPEN DAYS PLANNED AT NOBBYS HEADLAND

Nobbys Headland will be opened to the public later this month.

Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, made the announcement during an inspection of the site today with Minister for the Hunter, Jodi McKay.

“The Land and Property Management Authority (LPMA) is currently completing repair, maintenance and site safety work at the site,” Mr Kelly said.

“That will be finished in time for open days which are being planned for 25-27 February and again on 11-13 March.

“One of the vacant cottages at Nobbys is also being prepared for a photographic exhibition to be held by Renew Newcastle in conjunction with the open days.

“This is a fantastic opportunity for the local community and visitors to inspect Nobbys and to take in the breathtaking ocean and city views from this prominent landmark.

“However, for safety reasons, the number of visitors to the site at any one time will need to be limited so we would ask members of the public to be patient on these open days.”

Nobbys has always remained off limits to the public for safety and port operational reasons.

Ms McKay said LPMA has now taken over management of the site from Newcastle Port Corporation and is keen to open the site for public use.

“The longer term use and development of the site will be examined by LPMA with the objective of establishing a longer term management plan that will further open the site for community and tourism use,” Ms McKay said.

“As a result, the Government has allocated up to $500,000 towards the project from the Public Reserves Management Fund.”

Mr Kelly said any future use or potential development of the site will take into account the historic and iconic nature of Nobbys.

“This work is likely to include the installation of some perimeter security screening as well as pavement and building repairs,” Mr Kelly said.

“The heritage significance of the site will be taken into consideration to ensure the impact of any work is kept to a minimum.”