



The Australian Institute of Police Management on Sydney Harbour at Manly.

Creating better services and a softer footprint for AIPM

The redevelopment program for the Australian Institute of Police Management (AIPM) will consolidate its place as one of the world's best police and emergency services management training institutions while softening its footprint on its heritage location.

Tucked just inside the North Head of Sydney Harbour on the northern shore of the stunning Spring Cove at Manly the AIPM has been providing police management training since 1959. The Institute has developed a range of outreach programs that operate throughout the South East Asian region to complement its residential courses.

The AIPM is part of Australia's National Common Police Services and is administered by the AFP,

and reports to a Board of Control that is composed of all the police commissioners in Australia and New Zealand.

The \$6.2 million revamp of facilities at the Institute are aimed at providing better training facilities in keeping with the heritage demands of its unique location reflecting the importance and value that the Government places on AIPM and its role in providing professional police management training programs for police from around Australia and increasingly, overseas.

As chair of the AIPM's board of control, Commissioner Mick Keelty hosted a sod turning ceremony on 15 December 2006 to mark the construction of new facilities with AIPM Executive Director Jim Hann as master of ceremonies for the



Senator Chris Ellison turns the first sod at the new AIPM building site, as Commissioner Keelty (right) and AIPM Executive Director Jim Hann (left) look on.



event, and former Minister for Justice and Customs Chris Ellison doing the honours with the spade.

Construction work is set to start during 2007–08 and will include the removal and replacement of student accommodation, refurbishment of key administrative buildings and creation of location-sympathetic landscaping works. The replacement accommodation will consist of a set of four-bedroom cabins enabling the AIPM to double the current accommodation capacity to 60 people contained within similar space taken up by the current non-heritage listed barracks-style accommodation.

The cabins will be erected on stilts and connected via a timber boardwalk, in order to preserve the area's sensitive natural habitat.

Coordinating the project for the AFP, architect Phil Ward has emphasised the importance of nurturing the area's natural environment including the wildlife inhabiting the area.

"It is based on eco-tourism principles," he said. "There's a natural spring that we are re-opening into the site as it comes down into Spring Cove.

"We have produced an environmentally and ecologically sensitive design using these principles," he said.

The scope of works will also include the upgrade of existing AIPM heritage buildings such as the library, classrooms, kitchen and training rooms. The original garden cottage and Spring Cove cottage will also be preserved.

Since police management training began on this site in 1959 more than 6000 senior police officers have attended executive development programs, including officers from Australia, New Zealand, the US, UK, the Pacific, South East Asia, Europe and Africa.

Courses conducted by the AIPM help to develop the critical thinking, leadership and decision-making skills that police need to anticipate and respond to current and future challenges in Australian and international law enforcement.

