



 Deakin University has replaced low-risk cladding on some of its buildings. Picture: Supplied.

## GEELONG

# Deakin University to spend up to \$4m replacing building cladding at Waterfront campus

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May 26, 2019 12:52pm

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DEAKIN University says it has been commended by the Victorian Cladding Taskforce for taking action to replace low-risk cladding on its buildings.

Tenders closed recently on a project to replace cladding on the university's Waterfront campus, which is expected to cost between \$3 million and \$4 million.

Deakin University said there were no safety concerns at the extensively renovated 19th century wool stores.

Infrastructure and property group executive director Kevin Murphy said all relevant buildings had been assessed as safe to occupy by an independent fire

engineer and the Victorian Cladding Taskforce.

“Deakin is voluntarily modifying parts of several buildings that do have a low-risk cladding and has been commended by the taskforce as a leader in the sector for being so proactive,” Mr Murphy said.

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Cladding is being replaced at buildings AD, C and D, with the project having a budget of \$3 million to \$4 million, according to commercial construction industry connection website Estimate One.

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Fire risks associated with cladding have been a concern since the 2014 fire at the - Lacrosse apartment building in Melbourne’s Docklands and the Grenfell fire in London in 2017.

The Victorian Cladding Taskforce was established to investigate and address the use of non-compliant building materials.