

Apartment Development

Landscape and architecture blend to create green habitat



Design Inspiration: Image & Design by Cheng Architects



Client: SPL Architecture
Location: Portarlington, Victoria
Date: 2019, Completion
approx 2020

Role: Schematic Design

Our Approach

This high-profile site over-looking Corio Bay provided little opportunity for planting into deep-soil areas, so the proposal took advantage of opportunities for upper-level planting integrated into the levels of the building, including the roof space.

The large roof area will support a range of indigenous coastal plant species providing habitat for local fauna, as well as passive environmental benefits.

Drought tolerant low-growing coastal species suitable for lightweight shallow soil profile, with habitat elements such as logs, branch perches and rocks.

Planters provided to support a selection of low groundcovers, tufting and succulent plants, including plants that will trail over the edge to create a 'hanging gardens' impression.

Through implementation of lightweight 'extensive' shallow roof garden and deeper 'intensive' balcony planter systems a range of environmental benefits will be provided - passive cooling, reduced stormwater runoff, ecological biodiversity and habitat.

In the narrow perimeter spaces available, palms will provide filtered screening and scale to the building.

Stormwater harvesting and onsite storage will provide water for irrigation.

Provision of 'green infrastructure' reflects a committment to sustainability and targeting high a BESS building assessment rating.



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