

# Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

25 February 2014

## Accessible lighthouse lookout in the works

Work is set to commence on a new wheelchair-accessible viewing platform overlooking the Aireys Inlet Lighthouse and Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary.

The Great Ocean Road Coast Committee (GORCC) is currently inviting tenders for the construction of the lookout, which is scheduled for completion after Easter 2014.

GORCC CEO Richard Davies said the new platform will provide a stunning, scenic viewing opportunity over the marine sanctuary and back to the lighthouse.

“Consultation undertaken during the development of the 2008 Split Point Lighthouse Precinct Master Plan highlighted the importance of this vantage point, particularly to those with limited mobility who are unable to access the Split Point Lookout,” he said.

Mr. Davies said the project would also ensure the protection of the surrounding environment and the safety of visitors.

“Engineers have advised us that the stepped pathway to the Split Point Lookout is unsafe due to its proximity to unstable cliffs.

“Realignment of the path would require extensive clearing of protected, native vegetation which is not a viable option.

“By closing this half of the existing looped path and modifying it to include this new, accessible viewing platform, we can achieve both safety and sustainability while providing a great scenic experience.

Mr. Davies said the new steel framed and timber-decked structure would extend for 30 metres from near the base of the lighthouse toward the ocean.

“The viewing platform has been designed to gain elevation as the ground falls away from it.

“The elevated platform will also mean that we can revegetate the ground below so rainfall stays where it falls, nourishing the vegetation and reducing cliff erosion.

The main pathway to the existing Split Point Lookout will remain unchanged, but will no longer form part of a loop.

While the work site will be cordoned off when work starts, the rest of the area will remain open, including the Split Point lookout and the immediate surrounds of the lighthouse.

- Ends -

---

*Caring for the coast and community*

PO Box 53, Torquay, Vic 3228  
Phone: 03 5220 5055 Fax: 03 5264 7763

Email: [info@gorcc.com.au](mailto:info@gorcc.com.au) Web: [www.gorcc.com.au](http://www.gorcc.com.au)

**For media enquiries please contact:**

Jane Rowlands

Community Liaison Manager

Great Ocean Road Coast Committee

Ph: 5220 5055

Email: [jane.r@gorcc.com.au](mailto:jane.r@gorcc.com.au)

Website: [www.gorcc.com.au](http://www.gorcc.com.au)