Apartments dominate in Development Excellence Awards
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Seven of the thirteen Development Excellence Awards for 2018 have gone to apartment buildings across Australia, says the Urban Taskforce.

“The boom in apartments across Australia has led to more than half this year’s Development Excellence Awards going to apartment buildings in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane,” says Urban Taskforce CEO, Chris Johnson. “Clearly apartments are the way of the future.”

“The Development of the Year Award for 2018 went to Meriton’s 54 and 36 storey Altitude Towers in Parramatta that give a ring of confidence to the city that is becoming Sydney’s second CBD.”

Jury chair and NSW Government Architect, Peter Poulet said “We were very impressed with the quality of apartments being developed around Australia. There seems to be a good balance between design quality and affordability as well as a good focus on the public realm and the spaces between buildings. As our cities move to more apartments as populations grow we will need to learn from the winning examples in this year’s Urban Taskforce awards.”

Urban Taskforce CEO Chris Johnson said “Melbourne’s Banksia Apartments by MAB Corporation won the High Rise City Apartments Development award with the jury acknowledging that the building broke out of the usual apartment mould with its round shape and interesting façade. It does seem that Melbourne apartment design is more innovative than many Sydney apartments that must comply with the many rules in the NSW Apartment Design Guide”
"Brisbane's South City Square by Pellicano and Perri Projects won the Mixed Use Development award for an exciting mixed use development with a hotel, 860 apartments and 13,000 sqm of retail as well as creating a new public square."

"The affordable Housing Development winner was Harts Landing by PAYCE and Evolve Housing with a mixture of affordable, social and market apartments as well as a Social Enterprise Cafe."

"Eighty Eight Kensington by Luxcon Group are well mannered apartments that provide the street edge of Anzac Parade with more height on the corner. The project won the Medium Rise City Apartments Development award. The jury saw this as an excellent example of medium rise apartments in an urban setting."

"Woolooware Bay Apartments by Capital Bluestone are located adjacent to the Cronulla Sharks Football Club with superb views over the bay. The jury was impressed with the roof top cinema as a shared facility for the residents."

"A Highly Commended Mixed Uses Development award went to Esprit by Bridgehill Group where almost 500 apartments are planned around elevated streets with natural light and two storey features."

"The awards were presented to the winners at an industry Development Excellence Awards celebration that was ably hosted by comedian Vince Sorrenti in front of an audience of over 400 people."

The jury for the 2018 Urban Taskforce awards was Peter Poulet, NSW Government Architect; Carolyn Cummins, journalist with the Sydney Morning Herald; John Wynne of Urbis; John Ferrarin, Quantity Surveyor and David Tanevski, Secretary Treasurer of the Urban Taskforce.

See below list of all winners:

Winner of Development of the Year
Altitude, Parramatta by Meriton Group

Winner of Retail Development
Narellan Town Centre by Greenfields Development Company & D.Vitocco Constructions

Winner of Commercial Office City Development
Commonwealth Bank, Darling Square by Lendlease

Winner of High Rise City Apartments Development
Banksia by Mab Corporation

Winner of Medium Rise City Apartments Development
Eighty Eight, Kensington by Luxcon Group

Winner of Medium Rise Metro Apartments Development
Woolooware Bay Stage One by Capital Bluestone

Winner of Mixed Uses Development
South City Square by Pellicano & Perri Projects

Winner of Urban Renewal Development
Kensington Street & Spice Alley by Greencliff & Frasers Property Australia

Winner of Masterplanned Community Development
Willowdale by Stockland Development
Winner of Seniors Living/Retirement Development
St Basil’s Randwick by St Basil’s Homes

Winner of Affordable Housing Development
Harts Landing by PAYCE & Evolve Housing

Winner of Sustainable Development
International House Sydney, Barangaroo South by Lendlease

Highly Commended Mixed Uses Development
Esprit by Bridgehill Group

The Urban Taskforce is a property development industry group, representing Australia’s most prominent property developers and equity financiers.

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