

Minutes

Full Commission

2 August 2022 10.00am -11.40am

Muruba Room – Level 11, 6 Parramatta Square, Parramatta | Microsoft Teams (VC)

Members	Mr Geoff Roberts AM	Chief Commissioner (Chair)
	Ms Natalie Walker	Social Commissioner (<i>via VC</i>)
	Ms Meg McDonald	Environment Commissioner
	Mr John Lydon	Economic Commissioner
	Dr Deborah Dearing	Deputy Chief Commissioner and Eastern Harbour City Commissioner
	Mr Peter Poulet	Central River City Commissioner
	Ms Elizabeth Dibbs	Western Parkland City Commissioner (<i>via VC</i>)
	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter	Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet (<i>ex-officio</i>) (<i>via VC</i>)
	Mr Rob Sharp	Secretary, Transport for NSW (<i>ex-officio</i>) (<i>via VC</i>)
	Mr Michael Cassel	Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) (<i>ex-officio</i>)
In attendance	Ms Elizabeth Mildwater	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Greater Cities Commission (GCC)
	Ms Cassandra Wilkinson	Executive Director, Transport, Regions, Infrastructure and Planning, NSW Treasury (<i>as delegate for Dr Paul Grimes PSM</i>) (<i>via VC</i>)
	Dr Wendy Were	Executive Director, Thought Leadership and Engagement, GCC
	Ms Jenny Rudolph	Executive Director, Region Plan, GCC
	Mr Lee Mulvey	Executive Director, District Plans, GCC
	Ms Sarah Winter	Executive Director, Central Coast, Lower Hunter & Greater Newcastle
	Ms Heather Moore	Director, Office of CEO, GCC
	Mr David Fayyad	Director, Governance & Legal, GCC
	Mr Tony Di Mauro	Board Secretary, GCC
	Mr Matilda Harry	Co-Chair, Youth Panel, GCC (<i>via VC</i>)
Ms Claudia Rosario	Senior Engagement Manager, GCC (<i>observer</i>)	

Greater Cities Commission

OFFICIAL

Apologies

Dr Paul Grimes PSM

Secretary, NSW Treasury (*ex-officio*)

Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged that attendees were meeting on land of the Burramattagal, a clan of the Dharug People.

The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land and paid respect to elders past and present and extended that respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait people joining today.

The meeting commenced at 10.00am.

Apologies and quorum

The Chair noted the apologies and that a quorum was present.

Declarations of interest

The Chair invited members and attendees to declare any conflicts of interest.

The Full Commission **resolved to note** there were no conflicts of interest declared for this meeting.

Item 1:
Chief Commissioner's Report

The Chief Commissioner:

- Provided an update on the recruitment of three new City Commissioners, with recommendations for the appointments now forwarded to the Ministers office prior to seeking the approval of Cabinet. The anticipated appointment dates are for the end of August 2022.
- Advised of meetings between the GCC and Members of Parliament (MP) whose electorates cover the Six Cities Plan. The briefings included the GCC Chief Commissioner and Chief Executive, with each of the MP's approached supportive of the Six Cities vision and eager to read the discussion paper and see the commencement of engagement with key stakeholders and community groups.
- Acknowledged the work delivered on the Innovation Precincts, updating the members on:
 - *Tech Central*: Significant progress was advised at the precinct with the "Scale Up Hub" opened and is filling ahead of plan. Relocation interest was strong from ICT start-ups and global businesses following the recent Tech Summit.
 - *Westmead Health & Innovation District (WHID)*: Whilst not as progressed as Tech Central in its delivery, the WHID welcomed CSIRO to the precinct as the district continues to benefit from continued research collaboration.
- Expressed his heartfelt thanks to the outgoing Western Parkland City Commissioner Ms Elizabeth Dibbs over her four-year tenure, acknowledging the work and many significant achievements of the departing Commissioner.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

Note the Chief Commissioner's verbal updates.

Item 2:
Chief Executive Officer's Report

Ms Mildwater provided an overview of the Commission's recent and upcoming activities including:

- Confirmation of the GCC 2022-2023 Budget allocated by NSW Treasury, supplemented with a \$10 million commitment from Transport for NSW and further "in kind" operational support.

- Renewed enthusiasm by staff to return to a hybrid working arrangement with many now comfortable to return to the office environment. Continuing the GCC focus on WHS and wellbeing, the recent PWC internal audit on workplace WHS has provided several recommendations to address the management of workload and associated fatigue in the workforce.
- Updating the Commission on:
 - DPE response to the Commission's concerns on the Draft Camellia-Rosehill Place Strategy, with the two issues raised by the Commission (loss of employment and cost of infrastructure) to be addressed by DPE in the next stage and prior to finalisation and rezoning.
 - Meetings between the GCC Chair and Chief Executive with the Flood Inquiry to discuss how Strategic Planning addresses future growth patterns and adaptation for flood prone locations.

Ms Mildwater also spoke to her travel diary from her recent Trade Mission to Israel that included key takeaways and learnings on co-location and working collaboratively, the involvement of the military in driving innovation, the importance of talent recognition and the culture of failure and how it drives success and learnings.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

Note the CEO's Report.

The Commission **requested to action** the following:

That DPE be approached to provide a briefing or update on the Draft Camellia-Rosehill Place Strategy for the next available Infrastructure Delivery Committee.

Item 3: Youth Panel Representative Update

Ms Harry provided the Full Commission with a brief update on the Youth Panel activities which included:

- Engagement with the Committee for Hunter who presented the GCC Youth Panel with their recent report "Youth Voice 2022" that identified the top three issues of concern to youth in the region as the cost of living, availability of housing and climate change. The survey also identified many were concerned for their safety at night and felt it necessary to leave the region to reach their career ambitions.
- Discussions with Anti-Discrimination NSW over the challenges, barriers and discrimination felt by the youth of today when using the services.
- Participation in the GCC Diversity, Equity and Inclusion event which was focussed on World Youth Skills Day. The event included discussion on leadership, decision making and empowerment of young people.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

Note the Youth Panel Representative's verbal update.

The Commission **requested to action** the following:

For the GCC Youth Panel Co-Chair to engage with the Chair of the NSW Treasury Aboriginal Services Program so that both would benefit from any shared learnings.

Item 4:
Six Cities Discussion Paper and
Engagement Plan

Commissioner Ms Natalie Walker and Ex-officio Secretary Rob Sharp joined the meeting at this point.

The Chief Commissioner spoke to the report advising members that the discussion paper had included input from the relevant agency Secretaries and the recently held GCC Strategic Planning Committee. The discussion paper has been submitted the Cabinet Infrastructure Committee for noting, with an additional presentation to the Secretaries' Board scheduled for 11 August 2022.

Members and attendees discussed the content, vision and next steps articulated in the Discussion Paper.

GCC Executive Director Dr Wendy Were provided the following update:

- GCC has planned a media style event as it works through selecting a suitable location for the launch,
- The approach would include socialising the document through pre-briefing meetings with federal, state, and local government agencies followed by intense engagement that includes partnered events, meeting with diverse community groups and stakeholders.
- Engagement has commenced with the First Nations stakeholders, and
- Approaches would begin with each Commissioner to discuss involvement and their availability.

The Commissioner thanked the GCC Executive for all the work that went into the discussion paper and engagement plan.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

Note the attached report.

Item 5:
Delegation of Greater Cities
Commission Functions.

The CEO spoke to the paper.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

Approve the instrument of Delegation and Authorisation relating to specific statutory functions of the Full Commission.

Item 6:
Outcomes of the review of LGA's
in the Central River City

Mr Mulvey provided an overview of the engagement with the affected LGAs including verbal updates on the consultations with the Hornsby and Strathfield Councils at the Ministers request.

The Committee discussed the paper.

The Committee **resolved to:**

1. **Note** the paper summarising the outcomes of the review of LGAs and consultation with Councils on the composition of the Central River City,
 2. **Approve** the recommendation to move Sutherland Shire from the Central River City to the Eastern Harbour City.
 3. **Submit** the recommendations to the Minister for Infrastructure, Cities and Active Transport (the Minister) to make a regulation to amend Schedule 1 of the *Greater Cities Commission Act 2022* to give effect to this change.
-

Item 7:
Updated Central Coast
Strategy

GCC Executive Director Sarah Winter provided the members with background as to why an update was necessary to the Strategy that was approved by Cabinet in 2021.

Ms Winter provided the following update:

- Whilst the Strategy maintains the Cabinet approved structure of four key pillars and seven priorities, it's been updated to reflect the Six Cities vision and the location and boundaries of innovation districts and existing projects
- Key content changes include:
 - A new Priority 1 focus on innovation and industry collaboration,
 - A new Priority 2 to unlock employment lands and accelerating employment precincts,
 - A First Nations focus to align with the Six Cities Discussion paper.
- Significant consultation had occurred across Government to align with fast rail and sustainability strategies.
- The release date is yet to be confirmed but will occur after the release of the Six Cities Discussion paper. In the meantime progress on several initiatives is continuing.

The members provided support for the strategy and its priorities, requesting that the following be included in the strategy:

1. The budget commitment for Fast Rail, and
2. Clarity between Fast Rail and Faster Rail.

The Committee **resolved to:**

1. **Approve** the updated Central Coast Strategy (Attachment 1) which will be made public,
2. **Approve** the delegation to the Chief Executive Officer to make any final changes required to the final Updated Central Coast Strategy following the Full Commissions feedback.

Item 7:
Other Business

The members received an update on the next stage of the consultation process with key stakeholders associated with the GCC Industrial Lands Policy Review

Item 8:
Minutes of Previous Meeting
and Action Items

The Full Commission considered the draft minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022.

The Full Commission **resolved to approve** the minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022 to be confirmed by the Chair as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

The Full Commission **resolved to note** the action items.

Upcoming meetings

The Chair confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for 28 September 2022.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 11.35am.

Confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting by the Chair on 28 September 2022.

Geoff Roberts, AM
Chief Commissioner, Greater Cities Commission