

Inaugural meeting of the Greater Sydney Commission

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details

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| Held on: | Monday, 2 May 2016 | |
| At: | Greater Sydney Commission Boardroom, Level 5, 10 Valentine Avenue, Parramatta 9.15am | |
| Present: | Name | Position |
| | Lucy Turnbull AO | Chief Commissioner (Chairperson) |
| | Geoff Roberts | Deputy Chief Commissioner, Economic Commissioner |
| | Heather Nesbitt | Social Commissioner |
| | Roderick Simpson | Environment Commissioner |
| | Maria Atkinson | District Commissioner, Central |
| | Ed Blakely | District Commissioner, West Central |
| | Deborah Dearing | District Commissioner, North |
| | Sean O'Toole | District Commissioner, West |
| | Carolyn McNally | Secretary, Department of Planning & Environment |
| | Tim Reardon | Secretary, Transport for NSW |
| | Rob Whitfield | Secretary, NSW Treasury |
| In attendance: | The Hon. Rob Stokes MP | Minister for Planning (items 1-2 only) |
| | Lexodious (Lex) Dadd | Senior Darug man |
| | Sarah Hill | Chief Executive Officer, Greater Sydney Commission |
| | David Pitchford | Chief Executive Officer, UrbanGrowth NSW (items 1-6 only) |
| | Jim Betts | Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure NSW |
| | Ed Steane | A/Director to the CEO |
| | Brendon Jenkins | Director Development, Legal Services Branch, Department of Planning & Environment |
| | Brendan Leary | A/Deputy Secretary Transport, Infrastructure & Planning, NSW Treasury |
| | Ruth Jones | A/Director, Governance, Greater Sydney Commission (minute taker) |

Minutes

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| 1. | Welcome to Country |
| | Welcome to Country performed by Lexodious (Lex) Dadd, Senior Darug man, and his son, Maliki. Lex spoke of the need to be forward looking, to improve outcomes for all members of our communities, and to create a great place to live for future generations. Agreed: A formal vote of thanks to be forwarded to Lex and Maliki. |
| 2. | Welcome |
| | There being a quorum present, the Chief Commissioner opened the meeting. |

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| | <p>The Chief Commissioner welcomed members and observers to the inaugural meeting of the Greater Sydney Commission (Commission).</p> <p>The Hon. Rob Stokes, Minister for Planning then addressed the Commission, noting that the Commission has an unprecedented opportunity to lead dialogue on the economic, social and environmental future of Greater Sydney.</p> <p><i>The Hon. Rob Stokes MP exited the meeting.</i></p> |
| 3. | Conflicts of interests |
| | <p>The Chief Commissioner invited members and observers to declare any conflicts of interest in respect of the business of the meeting. No conflicts of interests were declared.</p> |
| 4. | Previous minutes |
| | <p>Nil.</p> |
| 5. | Chief Commissioner Report |
| | <p>The Chief Commissioner spoke to her report, noting in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Commission had received strong support from all levels of government; • the Commission’s membership brings together a broad range of expertise relevant to planning our city; • the Minister for Planning had set the Commission a number of statutory responsibilities under the Greater Sydney Commission Act 2015 (GSC Act 2015) and a number of “Priorities” included in a letter to her dated 18 January 2016; • in its first year, the primary task for the Commission is to produce six District Plans, (the GSC Act 2015 requiring these plans to be publicly exhibited within one year of the Commission’s establishment); • in developing the District Plans, the Commission will work closely with the community, industry and all levels of government; • effective stakeholder engagement is already a hallmark of the Commission, with over 200 external stakeholder meetings being held in the first three months of its existence; and • a number of other critical work programs are underway, including the revitalisation and planning of Parramatta Centre and the Westmead to Sydney Olympic Park Corridor. |
| 6. | Chief Executive Officer Report |
| | <p>The Chief Executive Officer spoke to her report, noting in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerial and government priorities had guided the operational framework of the Commission: • the Commission has a strong, multidisciplinary team, with staff seconded from councils and state government agencies (including the Department of Planning & Environment, Infrastructure NSW, UrbanGrowth NSW, Government Property NSW and Sydney Water); • over 200 priority stakeholder meetings had been conducted including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7 meetings with Commonwealth agencies, ○ 38 meetings with councils, |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 103 meetings with state government agencies, ○ 86 meetings with key industry and community stakeholders, and ○ 5 meetings with international delegations; and ● key 2016 priorities would be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the development and public exhibition of six draft District Plans for the Greater Sydney Region, ○ a major stakeholder and community engagement program in mid-2016, ○ the preparation of a vision for the Westmead to Sydney Olympic Park Corridor to feed into the draft District Plans, ○ active involvement in the establishment of governance arrangements for the Western Sydney Airport, ○ developing an approach to work with local and state government agencies to identify infrastructure growth priorities and potential "game changing" ideas with city-shaping potential, and ○ transition of Joint Regional Planning Panels to the Sydney Planning Panels (by November 2016). <p><i>David Pitchford exited the meeting</i></p> |
| 7. | Committee Reports |
| 7.1 | Finance and Governance Committee (FGC) |
| | <p>The FGC Committee Report was taken as read.</p> <p>Agreed: That, consistent with committee discussions led by the Chief Commissioner and the CEO, the Terms of Reference for the FGC be amended to be explicit about the FGC’s primary responsibilities, objectives and deliverables; including oversight of governance mechanisms and budget matters, planning and reporting, research and evidence building, policy and thought leadership, narrative setting for District Plans and the refresh of the Metropolitan Plan.</p> |
| 7.2 | Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) |
| | <p>The SPC Committee Report was taken as read.</p> <p>Agreed: That, consistent with committee discussions, the Terms of Reference for the SPC be amended to be explicit about primary objectives and deliverables, including the oversight of metropolitan planning, the delivery of draft District Plans, a regularly refreshed Greater Sydney Plan, an engagement program that includes outreach, participation and collaboration with local and State Government, industry, peak bodies and the community, and reports on progress with the development and implementation of District Plans and the Greater Sydney Region Plan.</p> |
| 7.3 | Infrastructure Delivery Committee (IDC) |
| | <p>The IDC Committee Report was taken as read.</p> <p>Agreed: That, in accordance with Treasury advice (tabled at meeting) and consistent with committee discussions, the Terms of Reference for the IDC be amended to be explicit about the IDC’s remit, primary objectives and deliverables: bringing together relevant agencies to integrate infrastructure decision-making with land-use planning across Greater Sydney; this</p> |

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| | <p>will include the development of advice on the alignment of land use and infrastructure priorities and a list of “game changing” ideas and projects with city-shaping potential. This work will feed into District Plans, and, in turn, the refresh of the Metropolitan Plan, and its alignment with the refresh of the <i>State Infrastructure Strategy</i>, the <i>Long Term Transport Master Plan</i> and <i>Total Asset Management Plans</i> across government. This reflects the Commission’s responsibilities under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> and the <i>Greater Sydney Commission Act 2015</i>.</p> |
| 8. | District Plans |
| | <p>A Commission discussion ensued regarding the District Plans and the Commission noted in particular that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the District Plans will be structured around the four goals of <i>A Plan for Growing Sydney (APGS)</i>; • legislation requires draft District Plans to be exhibited within 12 months of the date the Districts were declared (January 2017), however, the Commission aimed to release the draft District Plans for public comment in November 2016, and the consultation period would extend to at least March 2017; • the District Plans are to feed into the refresh of the <i>APGS</i> and will align with a repositioning of Transport for NSW’s <i>NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan</i> and the <i>State Infrastructure Strategy</i>, in 2017; • progress on the District Plans to date included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ public release of evidence base studies, ○ agreement on evidence gaps to be filled, ○ key regional and district issues identified through work previously undertaken by the Department of Planning & Environment, ○ background papers created to support consideration of each of the <i>APGS</i> key themes, ○ a proposed scope, structure and layout of plans, and ○ the design of an engagement strategy embracing state and local government, peak and community groups and the citizens of Greater Sydney, with initial stages already implemented; • issues to address, being: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ cross-district issues, resilience planning, jobs growth, housing targets, diversity, health and education infrastructure and the green grid, ○ the impact of key projects such as the Western Sydney Airport, ○ the integration of ‘game changers’ into the draft District Plans; ○ how to manage effectively the relationship between intersecting plans and different timelines and horizons, and ○ accessing the breadth of unpublished data relevant to district planning (e.g. utilities data); and • critical next steps, being: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a targeted engagement strategy to be implemented, and ○ District Commissioners to lead co-creation of draft District Plans. |
| 9. | Other business |
| | <p>It was noted that there are differences in the boundaries used by different State Government agencies. There will also potentially be changes in Council boundaries as a result of the Government’s local government reform process. The need for the Commission and</p> |

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| | Government to be aware of boundary differences when undertaking metropolitan planning was noted. State agency planning boundaries and the council boundary changes owing to potential amalgamations, was also considered by the Commission. |
| 10. | Commission meeting dates and close |
| | Agreed: that the full Commission would meet five times annually. The schedule detailing the Commission's three Committees' meeting dates was noted. There being no further business, the Chief Commissioner closed the meeting at 11.45am. |

Signed as a true record:



Chairperson

Date: **13 July 2016**