

Minutes

Commission Meeting

26 September 2023 10.00am - 12.15pm

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

Status of Attendee	Basis for attendance	Official Title	Name
Members	<i>GCC Act, s6(a), "Chief Commissioner"</i>	A/Chief Commissioner (Chair)	Dr Deborah Dearing
	<i>GCC Act, s6(b), "Greater Cities Commissioners"</i>	Social Commissioner	Ms Natalie Walker
		Economic Commissioner	Mr John Lydon
	<i>GCC Act, s6(c), "City Commissioner"</i>	Illawarra – Shoalhaven City Commissioner Central River City Commissioner Lower Hunter and Greater Newcastle City Commissioner	Ms Jacki Johnson Mr Peter Poulet Mr Matthew Endacott
Members (ex-officio)	<i>GCC Act, s6(d), "ex-officio"</i>	Chief Transport Planner, Transport for NSW (delegate for the Secretary, TfNSW)	Mr Simon Hunter
		Executive Director, Metro, East and South, Department of Planning and Environment (delegate for the Secretary, DPE)	Ms Amanda Harvey
		Director, NSW Treasury (delegate for the Secretary, NSW Treasury)	Ms Emma Finnerty
Standing invitees & guests [internal]	<i>SPC ToR (section 3, Chief Executive Officer & section 4.4 meeting Procedures</i>	A/Chief Executive	Ms Stephanie Barker PSM
		Head of Innovation Districts	Ms Petra Andren
		A/ Head of Strategic Planning	Mr Lee Mulvey
		A/ED, City Plans	Mr Geoff Thompson
		Senior Advisor Housing Target Monitoring	Ms Ann Maree Carruthers
		A/Executive Director People and Corporate Services	Mr Steve Thomson
		A/Executive Director, Thought Leadership and Engagement	Ms Lyndal Hayward
		Director, Westmead Innovation District	Mr Davor Jozic
		Board Secretary	Mr Tony DiMauro
Apologies		Environment Commissioner	Ms Meg McDonald
		Western Parkland City Commissioner	Ms Billie Sankovic
		Central Coast City Commissioner	The Hon Robyn Parker
		Secretary, Transport for NSW	Mr Josh Murray
		Secretary, the Cabinet Office	Mr Simon Draper
		Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment	Ms Kiersten Fishburn
		Secretary, NSW Treasury	Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter
		Chief Executive, GCC	Mr Chris Hanger

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Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair acknowledged that the Full Commission was meeting on the land of the Burramattagal people of the Dharug nation. The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land, paid respect to elders past and present and extended that respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people joining the meeting.
Apologies and quorum	The Chair welcomed the Commissioners and delegates of ex-officio members attending, noting the apologies from the other ex-officio members whilst advising that a quorum was present.
Declarations of interest	<p>The Chair invited members to declare any conflicts of interest.</p> <p>The Full Commission resolved to note that there were no conflicts of interest declared for this meeting.</p>
Item 1: Chief Commissioner's and Commissioners' Update	<p>The Acting Chief Commissioner updated the members of the Full Commission on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The approvals, agency collaboration and recent Committee meetings supporting the progress and continued refinement of the draft Six Cities Region Plan. Stakeholder engagement included recent meetings with the states Building, Economic and Rental Commissioners• Recent meetings with Minister Scully to discuss the proposed program and supporting exhibition period for the draft Six Cities Region and City Plans and planning for the proposed Housing Summit, <p>The Full Commission resolved to note the Chief Commissioner's verbal update.</p>
Item 2: CEO's Report	<p>In the absence of Mr Hanger, Ms Stephanie Barker as A/CEO provided an update and overview of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The development of the City Plans tabled in the current meeting agenda, progress of the draft Six Cities Region Plan and thoughts on the upcoming exhibition period,• Commission operational planning associated with recent MoG announcements and Budget constraints,• Recent Budget announcements on housing, supporting infrastructure and social housing. <p>The Full Commission resolved to note the CEO update.</p>
Item 3: GCC Annual Report	<p>Ms Hayward provided a brief overview of the preparation of the draft GCC Annual Report for 2022/23 advising the Commission that the Financial Statements have been completed and provided to the Audit Office of NSW to begin its audit. Once the audit clearance is provided by the Audit Office, the Financial Statements will be forwarded to the GCC Audit and Risk Committee for review and approval.</p> <p>Members provided feedback on the draft Annual Report content to include acknowledgement of the support from councils and interdependence with other agencies in the development of Region and City Plans.</p> <p>The Commission resolved to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">I. Endorse the Greater Cities Commission 2022-23 Annual Report, subject to any amendments made by the Commission, and delegate approval for publication of the final version of the Report to the Chief Executive Officer.

- II. **Delegate approval** of the Commission's Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2023 and relevant attestations to the Chief Executive Officer, subject to the endorsement and recommendation of the GCC Audit and Risk Committee.
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Item 4:
Draft Six Cities Region
Plan 2051 Update

Mr Mulvey provided an update on the progress of the development of the draft Six Cities Region Plan 2051 and draft City Plans, including the updates to the program milestones and approval processes. The members were provided with a summary of the changes to the draft Six Cities Region Plan 2051 following the last Full Commission meeting.

The Commission has commenced drafting a summary document to accompany the Draft Six Cities Region Plan through the Cabinet process for context around the Plan's housing targets. Context was also provided by the Executive on the role of the Six Cities Region Plan 2051 and City Plans against existing City Plans, such as those for the Newcastle Hunter region.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

- I. **Note** the revised program milestones for the draft Six Cities Region Plan 2051 and draft City Plans for the Eastern Harbour City, Central River City and Western Parkland City to address interdependencies with related housing and infrastructure considerations.
- II. **Endorse** the summary of amendments to the draft Six Cities Region Plan 2051 since it was reported to Full Commission on 8 August 2023

ACTION: Management to circulate the summary Region Plan document "out of session" to Commissioners in time for an e-cabinet submission by early the following week of the meeting.

Item 5:
Legislative Review of the
Greater Sydney Region
Plan
2018

Mr Mulvey spoke to the report that outlined the statutory requirements for the review of the existing Greater Sydney Region Plan 2018, alongside the requirement for the preparation of a new draft regional strategic plan applying to the whole of the Six Cities Region before the end of 2023.

The report included a summary of the key findings that had been incorporated in the draft Six Cities Region Plan that included:

- Aligning infrastructure, land use and Housing
- The innovation ecosystem approach
- Housing Affordability, First Nations input and the need to improve monitoring and reporting.

The Commission highlighted the report could benefit from highlighting the success of the three cities in the delivery of housing over this period, the green and environmental impacts targeted and the alignment of public transport investment and planning with programs and rezoning.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

- I. **Approve** the Review of the Greater Sydney Region Plan 2018 subject to inclusions of the feedback and amendments provided by the Commission.
 - II. **Approve** the Review's recommendation that the preparation of the new Region Plan for the Six Cities Region address key findings of the review.
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- III. **Approve** the public release of the Review of the Greater Sydney Region Plan 2018 before the end of 2023 alongside the exhibition of the draft Six Cities Region Plan
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Item 6:
Draft City Plans

Ms Carruthers updated the members on the progress of the draft City Plans for the Eastern Harbour, Central River, and Western Parkland cities.

The draft City Plans contain planning priorities grouped under the relevant themes to align with the objectives in the draft Six Cities Region Plan 2051. The Plans include alignment with proposed infrastructure, role of Strategic Centres, mapping and job targets, Budget announcements and Part B delivery stages.

Finalisation of draft City Plans will incorporate Transport for NSW feedback, a more concise introduction, the housing modules to align with the Housing Accord and amended housing targets.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

- I. **Note** the progress on draft City Plans for the Eastern Harbour City, Central River City and Western Parkland City. These include the planning priorities to implement the draft Six Cities Region Plan 2051.
- II. **Note that** an out of session Full Commission meeting is proposed to be held to seek approval of the final versions of the draft City Plans for Eastern Harbour City, Central River City and Western Parkland City for public exhibition, following NSW Government's consideration of the draft Region Plan.
- II. **Note** that the draft City Plans for the Lower Hunter and Greater Newcastle, Central Coast and Illawarra-Shoalhaven cities are progressing, and in progress drafts will be submitted to the Strategic Planning Committee for consideration in November 2023.

Item 7:
Exhibition Period
Communications and
Engagement

Ms Hayward spoke to the report providing an update of scenarios associated with public exhibition, dependent on finalised timing with the Minister's Office. The dependency on key infrastructure decisions being made by the government in October has led to the delay in the Government's approval to commence the exhibition period requiring the Commission to develop exhibition period scenarios rather than a fixed plan. The report addressed the holding of a Housing Summit and included a detailed media strategy.

The Commission was concerned with the late timing of the exhibition period and the ability to provide key personnel at councils with sufficient time to review and respond. Suggestions were made on whether the Commission could leverage of existing council meetings already in place. The importance in ensuring a robust stakeholder mapping process was conducted to ensure efficient and timely use of the Commissions time and resources.

The Full Commission **resolved to note** the proposed scenarios for public exhibition for engagement and communications activities, awaiting final confirmation of preferred timing.

Item 8:
Innovations Ecosystem
Workstreams

Ms Andren provided the Full Commission with an update on the key workstreams, and projects being progressed to further accelerate the growth of innovation districts across the Six Cities Region.

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The workstreams lay the foundations, provide the platform and evidence base to develop further works for NSW Government to support and accelerate the growth of economic and innovation precincts and districts that make up the Six City innovation ecosystem.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

- I. **Endorse** the Report on Mapping the Innovation Ecosystem to be published on the GCC website and to be shared with key ecosystem stakeholders.
- II. **Note** that there are three other major integrated workstreams and projects which span across the Six Cities innovation ecosystem that are currently being prioritised and progressed:
 - a) Innovation Ecosystem Metrics Project (IEMP)
 - b) Tech Central Economic Impact Assessment and 10-year Strategic Business Plan
 - c) Progress on the Innovation Ecosystem Strategy and Innovation District Framework

Item 9:
Six Cities Region Plan
supporting documentation

Tabled for the members is the supporting research and technical papers used to provide the evidence base for the Six Cities Region Plan 2051. The reports will be released on the same day as the Plans go on public exhibition. A phased social media campaign will be conducted over the exhibition period.

The Full Commission **resolved to:**

- I. **Note** the research reports and technical papers that have supported the development of the Six Cities Region Plan 2051.
- II. **Approve** the release of the research reports and technical papers to support the Six Cities Region Plan 2051.

Item 10:
Other Business

No other business was raised

Item 11:
Minutes

The Commission considered the draft minutes of the meeting held on 8 August 2023.

The Commission **resolved to Approve** the minutes of the meeting held 8 August 2023 to be confirmed by the Chair as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Upcoming meetings

The Chair confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 5 December 2023. There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 12.15pm.

Confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting by the Chair at the meeting of the Commission on the 19 December 2023

Dr Deborah Dearing
A/Chief Commissioner and Chair of the Commission