

Meeting of the Greater Sydney Commission (“Commission”)

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details

Held on:	Wednesday, 13 July 2016	
At:	Commission Boardroom, Level 5, 10 Valentine Avenue, Parramatta at 1.30pm	
Present:	Name	Position
	Lucy Turnbull AO	Chief Commissioner (Chairperson)
	Geoff Roberts	Deputy Chief Commissioner, Economic Commissioner
	Heather Nesbitt	Social Commissioner
	Maria Atkinson AM	District Commissioner, Central
	Professor Ed Blakely	District Commissioner, West Central
	Dr Deborah Dearing	District Commissioner, North
	Sean O’Toole AM	District Commissioner, West
	Sheridan Dudley	District Commissioner, South West
	Carolyn McNally	Secretary, Department of Planning & Environment
	Tim Reardon	Secretary, Transport for NSW
	Rob Whitfield	Secretary, NSW Treasury
In attendance:	Sarah Hill	Chief Executive Officer, Greater Sydney Commission
	David Pitchford	Chief Executive Officer, UrbanGrowth NSW
	Jim Betts	Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure NSW
	Matt Roberts	Executive Director Partnerships, NSW Treasury
	Sanjiv Midha	Deputy Secretary, Agency Budget and Policy, NSW Treasury
	Halvard Dalheim	Executive Director, Planning & Design, Department of Planning & Environment
	Ed Steane	Director to the CEO, Greater Sydney Commission
	Candice Driver	Commission Secretary, Greater Sydney Commission

Minutes

Agenda item	Minutes
1.	Acknowledgement of Country
	The Chief Commissioner acknowledged that the attendees of the meeting were present on the land of the Darug people and that the Darug people are the Traditional Owners of the land. The Chief Commissioner paid respect to the Darug elders, past and present, and to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside within the area.
2.	Meeting open and conflicts of interest
	There being a quorum present, the Chief Commissioner opened the meeting. The Chief Commissioner noted apologies from Roderick Simpson, Environment Commissioner and The Hon. Morris Iemma, District Commissioner, South.

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	<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 interest were declared.</p>
3.	Previous meeting minutes
	<p>It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 2 May 2016 be executed by the Chief Commissioner as a true and correct record of proceedings.</p>
4.	Chief Commissioner’s report
	<p>Referring to her report, the Chief Commissioner congratulated The Hon. Morris Iemma and Sheridan Dudley on their appointment as District Commissioners for the South and South West Districts, respectively.</p> <p>The Chief Commissioner also highlighted that Sean O’Toole had received an Order of Australia Medal for services to town planning and extended the Commission’s congratulations to him.</p> <p>The Chief Commissioner further noted that Elizabeth Koff had now been permanently appointed as Secretary of Health and Mark Scott as Secretary of Education and that Sarah Hill, CEO had conveyed the Commission’s congratulations to them both. The Chief Commissioner noted that by virtue of their positions, Ms Koff and Mr Scott are now ex-officio members of the Infrastructure Delivery Committee.</p> <p>The Chief Commissioner outlined from her report that the Commission continued to enjoy strong support from all levels of Government and that, through attendance at Cabinet Infrastructure Committee meetings, she and Ms Hill had participated in a number of important city shaping discussions.</p> <p>The Chief Commissioner explained that the primary focus of the Commission currently is developing draft District Plans for the six Districts. The Chief Commissioner thanked Ms Hill, the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), in particular Halvard Dalheim, and the District Commissioners for their hard work to date in this area.</p> <p>The Chief Commissioner also acknowledged the NSW Government’s decision to include additional funding for the Commission in the 2016 State Budget. She explained that the funding will be allocated to updating, revising and supporting community engagement on a <i>Plan for Growing Sydney</i> and developing digitised strategic planning tools, including a new digital dashboard.</p>
5.	Chief Executive Officer’s report
	<p>Ms Hill spoke to her report, noting in particular that the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • draft District Plans continue to be the main focus of the Commission’s work, and that an extensive amount of information was being pulled together from various sources, including the Talk Bus, social media interactions and the Technical Working Groups. Ms Hill thanked Mr Dalheim and his DPE team for their continued support; • “Our Sydney, Your Home” campaign had launched the week commencing 20 June and on social media, the Commission had reached 370,000 people (including 138,000 unique Facebook users) between June 17 and 30, of which 35,000 had engaged with content directly (liking, commenting, sharing and retweeting);

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • critical dates and milestones for reporting to the Commission and the Cabinet Infrastructure Committee (CIC) on the draft District Plans were set out in Table 1 of her report; • Greater Parramatta and Olympic Peninsula Collaboration Group was on track to deliver its outputs by late August 2016. Ms Hill explained that the Collaboration Group complemented the work being done by the Greater Parramatta Investment and Technical Coordination Group, chaired by the Chief Commissioner. Ms Hill further explained that a business round table had been planned for Quarter 3 2016, for businesses to share their views on the future of the area; • work program for the Infrastructure Delivery Committee (IDC) had been agreed and had now commenced; • 2015 / 2016 Greenspace Grants had been endorsed by the Finance and Governance Committee and transmitted to the Minister for consideration. Ms Hill advised that the Commission was also investigating opportunities to further enhance the 2016 / 2017 program; and • negotiations with UrbanGrowth NSW had commenced regarding the role of the Commission in delivering the \$200m Parramatta Road Urban Amenity Improvements Program. <p>A Commission discussion followed and covered issues such as the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • role of the Sydney Planning Panels and their decision making authority; • legal standing of the District Plans once published and their relationship with Local Environmental Plans; and • schedule for draft District Plan publication. <p>The progress on 'Greater Sydney Commission Priorities' as at 5 July 2016 at attachment A of Ms Hill's report was noted.</p> <p>The IDC work program at attachment B of Ms Hill's report was noted.</p>
6.	Finance report
	The finance report was taken as read. The Chief Commissioner noted the expanded range of activities that be undertaken as a result of the 2016 State Budget.
7.	Committee reports
7.1	Finance and Governance Committee (FGC)
	The report of the FGC was taken as read, the Commission noting the FGC meeting minutes attached to that report.
7.2	Strategic Planning Committee (SPC)
	The SPC report was taken as read, the Commission noting the SPC meeting minutes attached to that report.
7.3	Infrastructure Delivery Committee (IDC)
	The IDC report was taken as read. It was noted that the minutes of the last IDC meeting would be presented to the Commission once approved by the IDC.

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8.	Greater Sydney Commission Operational Plan, Charter and committee terms of reference
	<p>The Commission discussed the draft Operational Plan. It was noted that the content of this document would evolve as the Commission did. It was AGREED that the plan be reviewed again after six months and thereafter, on an annual basis.</p> <p>The Commission then discussed the importance of having a robust policy and procedure in relation to how interests of Commission members were declared and how conflicts of interest are dealt with. It was noted that the Commission currently has a conflict of interest policy (within the Operational Plan) but that the Commission members may benefit from further information detailing these arrangements. ACTION: a paper setting out the Commission arrangements in this area to be provided to the next Commission meeting.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve the Greater Sydney Commission: Operational Plan, Charter; and the amended terms of reference for the Strategic Planning Committee, Infrastructure Delivery Committee and Finance and Governance Committee, as set out in the Commission meeting papers.</p>
9.	District Plans update
	<p>Ms Hill spoke to the update on the draft District Plans. She explained that it was intended that a draft version be circulated to State Agencies for preliminary comment mid-August.</p> <p>The Chief Commissioner set out what she considered to be some important considerations when preparing the draft District Plans for exhibition, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the benefit of a consistent approach on key cross district issues; • the opportunity to develop and include in the draft District Plans the emerging integrated economic, social and environmental narrative, for the Greater Sydney region; • the need to accurately capture technical working group key issues and content in the draft District Plans; and • ongoing work to procure an innovative digital solution for the draft District Plans, in a timely and cost-effective way. <p><i>The Chief Commissioner adjourned the meeting at 2.30pm.</i></p>
10.	The emerging District Plan narrative
	<p><i>The Chief Commissioner reconvened the meeting at 2.40pm.</i></p> <p>The Deputy Chief Commissioner spoke to the emerging District Plan narrative, explaining (among other things) the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic, social and environmental issues underpinning the need for a narrative; • case studies examined; • data used / available to the Commission; • further studies being commissioned; and • need to ensure the narrative is complementary to, and builds upon, other Government priorities and strategies. <p>A Commission discussion followed, including:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the narrative would be represented in the draft District Plans and, particularly the opportunities it presents; • areas where the narrative expanded upon ideas developed in <i>A Plan for Growing Sydney</i>; • the relationship between the narrative and the <i>TfNSW Long Term Transport Master Plan</i>; • goal-setting in the draft District Plans; • that likely future technological innovation might need to be considered; • the opportunity to explain what Greater Sydney will 'look like' at points in time represented in the narrative; • appropriate terminology to be used to deliver the correct message in the narrative; and • the review cycle for the District Plans. <p>The management team were commended on the collaborative approach taken in respect of the Commission's work to date.</p>
11.	Other business
	<p>There was no other business raised.</p> <p><i>Jim Betts exited the meeting at 4.03pm.</i></p>
12.	Next meeting date and close
	<p>The Chief Commissioner explained that it was proposed to call an additional meeting of the Commission on Friday, 5 August 2016 at 2.30pm.</p> <p>There being no further business, the Chief Commissioner closed the meeting at 4.07pm.</p>

Signed as a true record:



Chairperson

Date: **13 September 2016**