

[REDACTED]

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**From:** David Birds [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 19 March 2018 5:34 PM  
**To:** Environment Planning  
**Subject:** RE: Inquiry into land release and housing supply

Dear Mr Hale

Thank you for inviting Council's views on further questions relating to the Greater Sydney Commission.

Please see below Council's responses to the questions raised inserted beneath each question.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Regards

**David Birds** | Group Manager Strategic Planning  
**Inner West Council**

**P:** [REDACTED] | **E:** [REDACTED]

Ashfield Service Centre: 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield NSW 2131  
Leichhardt Service Centre: 7-15 Wetherill Street, Leichhardt NSW 2040  
Petersham Service Centre: 2-14 Fisher Street, Petersham NSW 2049



*Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of these lands, the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora Nation.*

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**From:** Environment Planning [mailto:environmentplanning@parliament.nsw.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 8, 2018 4:47 PM  
**To:** David Birds  
**Subject:** Inquiry into land release and housing supply

8 March 2018

LAC18/034

Mr David Birds  
Group Manager Planning  
Inner West Council  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Birds

**RE: Inquiry into Land Release and Housing Supply**

Thank you for appearing to give evidence before the Committee on Environment & Planning on Monday 5 March 2018.

The Committee would like to request some further information on matters raised during your appearance. In particular, the Committee is interested to find out more about council's view on the Greater Sydney Commission and its experience in this regard.

The Committee has the following questions:

The Greater Sydney Commission describes its role as that of coordinator of local councils, infrastructure providers and the housing and developer industry with the aim of affordable housing delivery.

- Has the Commission proven to be an effective coordinator of your local council, state agencies and the housing industry?

The Commission has not yet demonstrated this ability in the Inner West Council area. The Council is beginning to work with the Commission on various projects but this ability is yet to be called on in this regard.

- Should the Commission's powers be expanded to ensure its plans are enforceable? It would be helpful if greater certainty could be provided that Government decisions on local development issues such as rezonings will be consistent with the Plans, if they fully take into account local circumstances and considerations.

- Is the Commission the best body to coordinate metropolitan infrastructure? It would be very helpful if the Commission could play this role and in doing so ensure sufficient infrastructure is provided to support new development proposals that come forward in response to its Plans. It is acknowledged that this would entail the coordination of the provision of infrastructure by various State agencies but this is critical to securing good quality development outcomes. Local government is generally unable to compel Government agencies to work with it in this regard so the Commission could be a helpful broker of good development solutions.

The Committee would greatly appreciate if you could respond by Monday 19 March 2018. Please note that your response will form part of your official evidence and will be placed on public record.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact me on (02) 9230 3095 or via email: [environmentplanning@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:environmentplanning@parliament.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

David Hale  
Committee Manager  
Committees  
Legislative Assembly  
(ph) 9230 3095  
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