

**From:** Elena Sliogeris [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 March 2018 1:48 PM  
**To:** Environment Planning  
**Cc:** David Hale  
**Subject:** HPE CM: Inquiry into land release and housing supply - additional information

20 March 2018

David Hale  
Committee Manager  
Committees  
Legislative Assembly

Dear Mr Hale

The following outlines the additional information as requested by the Committee.

***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 following information provided is based on Randwick City Council's experience with the Greater Sydney Commission as:

- a key stakeholder in the Greater Sydney Commission's planning process for the Randwick Collaboration Area; and
- a participant in the technical working groups to help inform the preparation of the Greater Sydney Commission's Greater Sydney Region Plan and Revised Eastern City District Plan.

As part of the Commission's planning process for the Randwick Collaboration Area, the Commission has been successful in coordinating the core stakeholders of the collaboration area being University of NSW, Health Infrastructure and Randwick City Council to enter into a formal agreement to coordinate planning and infrastructure needs for the area; and to provide input to the preparation of a place strategy and infrastructure plan for the area which is currently being prepared.

The Commission has facilitated four workshops to date to help inform the preparation of the place strategy, on the planning themes of governance and planning for a collaboration area, transport and housing. The aim of the workshops is to bring together key stakeholders and agencies to identify issues, constraints and opportunities in relation to these planning themes and the provision of infrastructure for the area. The Commission has been successful in engaging key agencies to the workshops including for example Transport for NSW, Australian Turf Club, Land and Housing Corporation, City Futures Research Centre, Tafe NSW, Department of Planning and Environment, Roads and Maritime Services; and to facilitate information sharing amongst these agencies.

A similar process was also undertaken by the Commission in preparation of the Greater Sydney Region Plan and Revised Eastern City District Plan. The Commission held a series of technical working groups for each district which were attended by key government agencies and stakeholders including the Council's within the district. This process enabled Council officers to provide specific local input to the Commission on local planning issues within the Council area. Some of this information was then incorporated within the district plans.

In summary, while the early collaborative efforts of the Commission are supported and commendable it is still too early to determine the effectiveness of the Commission in coordinating agencies to commit to and deliver the infrastructure required.

• ***Should the Commission's powers be expanded to ensure its plans are enforceable?***

Yes, in order to implement a strong strategic planning framework the Commission's powers should be expanded, to ensure the delivery of an integrated strategic planning framework in line with infrastructure delivery as outlined in the Commission's Greater Sydney Region Plan and District Plans.

Moreover, while the Council engages with the Commission on higher level strategic planning issues, the Council's day to day interactions and key accountabilities are with the Department of Planning and Environment's regional team particularly in relation to planning proposals and planning processes. As such, there appears to be a discord between the two. Our experience to date with the Department on draft planning proposals and requests by the Council on the Department's planning policies, the processes has taken far too long.

There needs to be better clarity in the decision making processes and improved response times by the Department of Planning and Environment to Councils which may be improved should the Commission's powers be expanded to ensure its plans are enforceable.

• ***Is the Commission the best body to coordinate metropolitan infrastructure***

Yes, the Council supports the Commissions commitment (as outlined in the Greater Sydney Region Plan and District Plans) to integration of planning for growth and land use outcomes in line with infrastructure. The Commissions early efforts in bringing together key infrastructure agencies has demonstrated the effectiveness of the Commission as an agency to identify and coordinate infrastructure that is required. Based on this, it would be good to see the Commission continue in this role to ensure infrastructure is committed to and delivered as part of planning for growth.

As part of this process, however, we suggest that clearer delineation of the levels of responsibility across each organisation and agency is needed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by this email address or on the number below, should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

**Elena Sliogeris**  
**A/Coordinator Strategic Planning**  
**Randwick City Council**

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