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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## Sydney Metro West project: interim report released

The Committee on Transport and Infrastructure has tabled an interim report as part of its inquiry into the Sydney Metro West project.

The interim report's one recommendation is for the Legislative Assembly to consider making an order for papers to enable the Committee to complete the inquiry.

The Committee faced challenges in obtaining a copy of the original business case for the project, which is essential for the Committee to fulfill key aspects of the inquiry.

The Committee wrote to Infrastructure NSW and Sydney Metro to request a copy of the original business case for the Sydney Metro West project. This request was denied by both agencies, citing Cabinet in Confidence. At a public hearing on 13 October, the Committee again requested a copy of the original business case from government agencies who appeared as witnesses. Again, the Committee's requests were denied.

Ms Lynda Voltz, Chair of the Committee said 'This is why we are recommending that the New South Wales Legislative Assembly consider using its power to request that the Government provide these documents to the Committee. The original business case is a crucial piece of evidence, and without it we are unable to fully meet the objectives of this inquiry.'

The inquiry was referred to the Committee by the Minister for Transport, the Hon. Jo Haylen MP on 1 August 2023. As part of the inquiry the Committee is examining various aspects of the project, including its original business case, the cause of cost and timeline blowouts and the establishment of the route and selection of station locations.

The Committee received 34 submissions from a range of stakeholders and heard from 28 witnesses, including community and business advocacy groups, NSW Government departments and agencies, local councils, and planning and architectural organisations.

'The Committee thanks all inquiry participants for their valuable input and will continue working to ensure that the inquiry sheds further light on the issues raised' said the Chair of the Committee.

The interim report can be found on the Committee's webpage.

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