

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST BILL 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

MANAGEMENT OF THE GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS ESTATE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 26 November 2021

An Upper House Select Committee has been established to inquire into the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill 2021, newly proposed legislation which will establish the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust as a corporation and NSW Government agency.

Greater Sydney Parklands includes some of Sydney's most iconic spaces, including Centennial Parklands, Western Sydney Parklands, Parramatta Park, Callan Park and Fernhill Estate.

The Bill sets out the functions of the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust, including its role in conserving and enhancing the natural environment and the cultural and heritage value of the parklands estate. The Trust will also be able to grant leases, licences and easements over land in its estate, with the Ministers approval required for leases over 25 years.

The Chair of the Select Committee, the Hon Robert Borsak MLC, stated: "This inquiry will be a good opportunity to explore both the proposed benefits of the legislation and community concerns. In particular, I note that there has been some concerns related to the potential for commercialisation of areas within the estate, including Callan Park".

Members of the public that wish to share their view about the Bill are encouraged to participate in an <u>online questionnaire</u> by 19 December 2021. A hearing with key stakeholders is also being planned for late January 2022, with the committee due to report by 21 February 2022.

For further information about the inquiry, please visit the <u>committee's website</u>.

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For further information please contact the Chair, the Hon Robert Borsak MLC, on (02) 9230 2573.