



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON BARANGAROO SIGHT LINES

MEDIA RELEASE

BARANGAROO SIGHT LINES REPORT TABLED

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

17 February 2023

The NSW Upper House committee inquiring into the Barangaroo 'sight lines' has today released its report.

The Chair of the Committee, the Hon Mark Latham MLC stated: 'This report on the troubled Barangaroo development is yet another lesson for the NSW Government on the folly of picking winners and pursuing excessive intervention and manipulation of commercial decisions'.

'The role of government in a market economy should be to improve the business environment through increased productivity, lower input costs and less regulation. This is especially true in the town planning of major development projects like Barangaroo. Government needs to ensure it keeps separate its development consent functions from its role in promoting investment and settling legal disputes. Each of these fundamentals of governance were ignored at Central Barangaroo'.

The committee made 4 recommendations and 10 findings, with a number of these critical of the approach taken by Infrastructure NSW, and the NSW Government more broadly, to this major redevelopment project. Specifically, the committee found that Infrastructure NSW failed to anticipate the significant ramifications of undertaking a reconceptualisation of Central Barangaroo in 2015. Further, the committee found that Infrastructure NSW did not adequately consider nor appropriately address the significant impact of the sight lines dispute with Lendlease and Crown on the Central Barangaroo Development.

The committee also made a number of findings in relation to the involvement of Grocon in the Central Barangaroo development. Mr Latham said: 'This report is particularly critical of the process by which Grocon was manipulated out of Central Barangaroo, as a consequence of the sightlines dispute. Infrastructure NSW tried to pick a winner in Aqualand, but this has backfired with its failed development application and the resulting Central Barangaroo pit'.

'Never has a cliché held truer: When you've dug yourself into a hole, the first rule is: Stop digging,' Mr Latham continued. 'Far from an international model for successful urban renewal, Barangaroo has become a sad lesson in how not to do things. This report and its recommendations stand as an instruction for future governments in mistakes to avoid'.

Information about the inquiry, including the full report, is available on the committee's [website](#).

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For media enquiries please contact Committee Chair the Hon Mark Latham MLC on 02 9230 3682.