

**Submission
No 289**

INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

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Inquiry into the Sydney Stadiums Strategy

Submission to the Legislative Council Public Works Committee

NSW Office of Sport

Infrastructure NSW

Venues NSW

Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Treasury NSW

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1.0 Introduction

This is a joint submission to the Legislative Council Public Works Committee's Inquiry into the Sydney stadiums strategy by:

- a) NSW Office of Sport;
- b) Infrastructure NSW;
- c) Venues NSW;
- d) the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust (SCG Trust); and
- e) the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet.

All referenced information in this submission is currently publicly available from:

- a) NSW Government websites;
- b) information released to media entities;
- c) documents publicly produced to the Legislative Council in response to the Order for Papers dated 15 March 2018 in relation to Sydney Stadiums (Order for Papers) or
- d) information provided by the Agencies.

1.1 Background

In 2012, the NSW Government released the NSW Stadia Strategy¹. In 2015, the NSW Government released the Rebuilding the Major Stadia Network strategy (including the Stadia Strategy Implementation Report).

Several NSW government agencies (the Agencies) worked on the Rebuilding the Major Stadia Network strategy, as well as the delivery of Western Sydney Stadium, as summarised below:

- a) **NSW Office of Sport:** the predecessor to the NSW Office of Sport, the Office of Communities within the Department of Education, prepared the NSW Stadia Strategy. The NSW Office of Sport prepared the Rebuilding the Major Stadia Network strategy. The NSW Office of Sport also helped prepare the preliminary plans for the redevelopment of Stadium Australia before Infrastructure NSW was engaged to do so;
- b) **Infrastructure NSW:** engaged to prepare and assess the Final Business Case for the redevelopment of the Sydney Football Stadium, to finalise the Strategic Business Case for the redevelopment of Stadium Australia and to assist with the planning of the redevelopment of the Sydney Football Stadium;
- c) **Venues NSW:** owns Stadium Australia, Western Sydney Stadium, McDonald Jones Stadium, and the Newcastle Entertainment Centre and Showground and WIN Sports and Entertainment Centres² on behalf of the NSW Government and has assisted with the redevelopment plans for Stadium Australia;
- d) **SCG Trust:** manages the Sydney Football Stadium and the SCG on behalf of the NSW Government and has assisted with the redevelopment plans for the Sydney Football Stadium and the delivery of the Northern Stand at the SCG;
- e) **Department of Premier and Cabinet:** has assisted with the redevelopment plans for Stadium Australia and the Sydney Football Stadium.

¹ NSW Office of Communities, *Stadia Strategy*, 2012, https://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/nsw_stadia_strategy_2012_0.pdf accessed 17 May 2018.

² Venues NSW, *Overview*, <http://www.venuesnsw.com/page/overview> accessed 21 May 2018.

1.2 Terms of Reference

This submission is prepared on the assumption that the Terms of Reference and the requirement that the Committee inquire into "the Government's Sydney stadiums strategy" refer to the NSW Government's Rebuilding the Major Stadia Network strategy.

The Agencies provide this submission in relation to each paragraph of the Terms of Reference.

2. Stadium Strategy

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

1a) The process by which the Government developed the strategy, including the input provided by Infrastructure NSW, Venues NSW, the Sydney Cricket Ground Trust and other government agencies

2.1 Below is a chronology of the process by which the Sydney stadiums strategy, Rebuilding the Major Stadia Network, was developed. Consistent with the Agencies' interpretation of the term "Sydney stadiums strategy" in the Terms of Reference (as outlined at paragraph 0 above), the following chronology is a summary of the strategy as whole and does not constitute a chronology of the individual projects which make up the strategy:

- a) **September 2011:** NSW 2021 - A Plan to Make NSW Number One was published. It is a ten-year plan to "guide ... policy and budget decision making ... to deliver on community priorities."³ Goal 27 is to "enhance cultural, creative, sporting and recreation opportunities." Two key targets were identified for Goal 27:
- i. increase participation in sport, recreational, arts and cultural activities in rural and regional NSW from 2010 to 2016 by 10%; and
 - ii. increase participation in sport, recreation, arts and cultural activities in Sydney from 2010 to 2016 by 10%.

Each target is accompanied by a number of 'priority actions' to assist in the achievement of the target. The second listed 'priority action' to achieve this target is:

*"Develop a NSW Stadium Strategy guiding government investment in facilities with the aim to deliver improved community access, cater for multi-purpose usage, offer improved facilities for participants and spectators and improve the competitive position of NSW when bidding for events."*⁴

- b) **October 2012:** Infrastructure NSW delivered its first 20-year State Infrastructure Strategy to the NSW Premier and identified the need for a coordinated stadia investment and management plan;⁵
- c) **November 2012:** the NSW Government released the *NSW Stadia Strategy*. The strategy covered seven Government-owned or leased stadia:
- i. Stadium Australia;
 - ii. Sydney Showground;
 - iii. Sydney Cricket Ground;
 - iv. Sydney Football Stadium;

³ NSW Government, *NSW 2021: A plan to make NSW Number One*, https://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/file_manager/NSW2021_WEBVERSION.pdf accessed 16 May 2018.

⁴ *NSW 2021 - A Plan to Make NSW Number One*, dated September 2011, https://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/file_manager/NSW2021_WEBVERSION.pdf accessed 15 May 2018.

⁵ Infrastructure NSW, *The State Infrastructure Strategy 2012 - 2032* http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/media/1127/sis_report_complete_interactive.pdf accessed 21 May 2018.

- v. Western Sydney Stadium;
 - vi. Hunter Stadium; and
 - vii. Wollongong Stadium;⁶
- d) **November 2014:** Infrastructure NSW recommended investment in stadia to maintain competitiveness in the events market in its State Infrastructure Strategy Update;⁷
- e) **September 2015:** the NSW Government released the *Rebuilding the Major Stadia Network* strategy and the *Stadia Strategy Implementation Report*.⁸ The *Stadia Strategy Implementation Report* built on the 2012 Stadia Strategy, the NSW 2021 State Plan, the Visitor Economy Industry Action Plan and the State Infrastructure Strategy Update 2014. A \$600 million investment from the Government was announced, with over \$1 billion to be spent on the following Government-owned or leased stadia by 2030:
- i. a new rectangular stadium at Parramatta with 30,000 seats;
 - ii. a new rectangular stadium at Moore Park with 50,000 to 55,000 seats;
 - iii. the redevelopment of Stadium Australia which may include a retractable roof;
 - iv. a new indoor arena near the CBD;
 - v. a new outer Western Sydney sporting venue; and
 - vi. the completion of the SCG upgrade;⁹
- f) **April 2017:** the NSW Government approved the *Commerciality Framework* for the NSW Government Stadia Network. The Framework is designed to encourage commercial operations of the New South Wales Government's Stadia Networks and provides the strategic basis for the facilities operated by Venues NSW and the SCG Trust to operate both individually and as part of the network in an efficient, coordinated and consistently commercial manner;¹⁰
- g) **March 2018:** the NSW Government released the *NSW State Infrastructure Strategy 2018 - 2038* which includes, amongst other things, a recommendation that, by mid-2018, the NSW Office of Sport complete a State Sport Infrastructure Strategy, a whole-of-sector, evidence-based investment framework and management plan.¹¹

3. Modelling or Cost Benefit Analysis

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

⁶ NSW Office of Communities, *Stadia Strategy*, 2012, https://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/nsw_stadia_strategy_2012_0.pdf accessed 17 May 2018.

⁷ Infrastructure NSW, *State Infrastructure Strategy Update 2014*, November 2014 http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/media/1090/inf_j14_871_sis_report_book_web_new.pdf accessed 21 May 2018.

⁸ NSW Office of Sport, *Stadia Strategy Implementation Report*, 2015, https://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/Stadia_Strategy_Implementation_Report.pdf accessed 17 May 2018.

⁹ NSW Government, Office of Sport, *Media release: Massive investment in new stadia for Sydney*, dated September 2015, <https://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/news/media-release-massive-investment-new-stadia-sydney>; <https://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/news/govt-announces-major-investment-stadia-network> accessed 16 May 2018.

¹⁰ NSW Government, Office of Sport, *Commerciality Framework for Stadia*, <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/OOS/SIG/commerciality-framework> accessed 16 May 2018; and NSW Government, Office of Sport, *Commerciality Framework for Stadia*, <https://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/OOS-Commerciality-Framework.pdf> accessed 16 May 2018.

¹¹ Infrastructure NSW, *State Infrastructure Strategy 2018 - 2038 - Chapter 15: Culture, sport and tourism*, dated February 2018, https://insw-sis.visualise.today/chapters/Culture_sport_and_tourism.pdf accessed 16 May 2018.

1b) Modelling or cost benefit analyses that informed the strategy, including the compliance of such modelling or analyses with the Restart NSW Fund Act 2011 (NSW)

- 3.1 In accordance with the Infrastructure Investment Assurance Framework (IIAF) and as the NSW Government's independent infrastructure advisory agency, Infrastructure NSW routinely assesses final business cases and provides advice to Government on their findings. These assessments aim to find whether there is evidence that a proposed project is economically and socially justified. In early 2018, the Government agreed that Final Business Case Summaries should be prepared by Infrastructure NSW for publication following the funding decision being made by Cabinet.
- 3.2 In November 2017, Infrastructure NSW was tasked with the coordination of the production of Business Cases for the Sydney Football Stadium and Stadium Australia redevelopments. Infrastructure NSW presented the Final Business Case for the Sydney Football Stadium and the Strategic Business Case for Stadium Australia to Government in April 2018
- 3.3 Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) assessments are conducted in accordance with the NSW Treasury Guidelines (TPP 1703, Guide to Cost-Benefit Analysis) based on business cases assured in accordance with the IIAF. The Treasury Guidelines include economic, social and environmental benefits, and were refreshed in March 2017.
- 3.4 Consistent with these principles and guidelines, the potential for projects to "improve economic benefit and productivity" is demonstrated through achieving a BCR greater than one. Infrastructure NSW requires all projects to demonstrate a BCR of above one (i.e. benefits exceed costs) before it is prepared to recommend them to the Treasurer for Restart NSW funding.
- 3.5 All current stadium projects arising out of the Sydney stadiums strategy have had business cases approved by Cabinet. The Business Case Summaries for Sydney Football Stadium and Stadium Australia are available on the Infrastructure NSW website.¹²
- 3.6 The Feasibility Study for the proposed Indoor Arena commenced in January 2017¹³.

4. Economic and Social Justifications

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

1c) Economic and social justifications for the strategy, including experiences in other jurisdictions and relevant academic literature

- 4.1 The broad economic and social justifications for the Sydney stadiums strategy are contained in the Infrastructure NSW State Infrastructure Strategy documents and, particularly, the *Stadia Strategy Implementation Report 2015*. The economic and social justification for individual projects is assessed in their respective business cases.
- 4.2 In relation to experiences in other jurisdictions, the *Stadia Strategy Implementation Report 2015* outlines the stadia investment perspective in other states of Australia and outside Australia.

¹² Infrastructure NSW, *Business Case Summaries*, <http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/expert-advice/business-case-summaries/> accessed on 21 May 2018.

¹³ NSW Office of Sport, *Indoor arena feasibility*, <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/OOS/SIG/Indoorarena> accessed 21 May 2018.

5. Development and Planning Assessment Process

This section addresses the specific terms of reference

1d) Development and planning assessment process for Sydney's sports stadiums, including opportunities for public input

- 5.1 The new Western Sydney Stadium was assessed under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) as a State Significant Development. The Act sets out a standard process for public exhibition and consultation, which is overseen by the Department of Planning and Environment. The then Minister for Planning issued Stage 1 State Significant Development Application planning approval for the Western Sydney Stadium on 7 December 2016¹⁴. Stage 2 State Significant Development Application planning approval was issued on 31 August 2017¹⁵.
- 5.2 Infrastructure NSW is developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Stage 1 State Significant Development Application for the redevelopment of the Sydney Football Stadium.¹⁶ Planning consent will be sought in two stages:
- Stage 1: a concept plan and EIS will be placed on public exhibition. At this stage, Infrastructure NSW is seeking approval for the demolition of the existing 1988 structure and the concept plans, following community and stakeholder feedback; and
 - Stage 2: the planning application will cover design, construction and operation of the new stadium in more detail and is anticipated to go on public exhibition in mid-2019.¹⁷
- 5.3 Three community information sessions in relation to the Sydney Football Stadium redevelopment were in May 2018.¹⁸
- 5.4 Infrastructure NSW is also taking public feedback on the development via the website <https://yoursay.sfsredevelopment.insw.com/have-your-say>. The NSW Government is committed to ensuring the community is properly engaged throughout the SSDA process. It is anticipated that:
- community feedback will be incorporated into the Stage 1 EIS;
 - the EIS will then be placed on public exhibition in mid-2018, which will give interested community members an opportunity to view the plans and provide feedback; and
 - the Stage 2 EIS will be placed on public exhibition in 2019, which will provide the community further opportunities to comment and provide feedback.¹⁹
- 5.5 In relation to Stadium Australia, the development and planning assessment process, including opportunities for public input, will be determined upon completion of the Final Business Case.

¹⁴ Department of Planning & Environment, *Major Project Assessments - Western Sydney Stadium* http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=7534 accessed 21 May 2018.

¹⁵ Department of Planning & Environment, *Modification of Development Consent - Western Sydney Stadium*, 10 April 2017 <https://majorprojects.accelo.com/public/14f0691ada4450f06580512e6fc24a37/SSD%207534%20MOD%20%20Instrument%20of%20Approval.pdf> accessed 21 May 2018.

¹⁶ Infrastructure NSW, *Planning Process & Timeline*, <https://yoursay.sfsredevelopment.insw.com/planning-process-timeline> accessed 18 May 2018.

¹⁷ Infrastructure NSW, *Planning Process & Timeline*, <https://yoursay.sfsredevelopment.insw.com/planning-process-timeline> accessed 18 May 2018.

¹⁸ Infrastructure NSW, *Have Your Say*, <https://yoursay.sfsredevelopment.insw.com/have-your-say> accessed 18 May 2018.

¹⁹ Infrastructure NSW, *FAQs*, <https://yoursay.sfsredevelopment.insw.com/faqs> accessed 18 May 2018.

6. Safety and Maintenance at Allianz Stadium

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

1e) Management and adequacy of safety and maintenance at Allianz Stadium

- 6.1 In 2016, the SCG Trust commissioned building experts to conduct a safety, security and compliance audit of the Sydney Football Stadium. The audit identified a number of critical issues requiring short-term rectification expenditure over three years to ensure compliance and safety issues were addressed at the stadium.
- 6.2 In 2016, the SCG Trust also received a conditional certificate of occupancy to provide assurance of the Sydney Football Stadium's continued operation for the next three years, subject to completion of priority remediation works²⁰. The Sydney Football Stadium does not comply with modern building standards or meet similar community standards, including:
- Building Code of Australia;
 - Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth);
 - Australian Standard for Earthquake Design of Buildings; and among others; and/or
 - Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds (Green Guide).
- 6.3 The conditional certification of occupancy and the caveats to this were not raised as part of any funding request to Government during the 2017-18 budget process.
- 6.4 In relation to maintenance, the SCG Trust prepares annual Total Asset Management Plans in accordance with NSW Government guidelines and statutory requirements.

7. Attendance Rates

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

1f) Attendance rates at Sydney's sports stadiums and whether patrons are from Sydney, regional New South Wales, interstate or overseas

- 7.1 Data obtained from Destination NSW, which collects data on events in which it has invested, provides the following data:
- for the venues comprising the Sydney stadiums strategy, visitors from outside Sydney range across sports events from 22% to 28% of attendees. Sydney residents account for 72% to 78% of attendees at those events; and
 - the visitors from outside Sydney from 2014 to 2017 reveals that, 7% were from overseas 60% are from interstate and the remaining 33% are intrastate visitors.
- 7.2 The SCG and Sydney Football Stadium welcome nearly two million people to the precinct and venues each year.
- 7.3 More detailed data from the venue operators, Venues NSW and the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust follows.

²⁰ Trust Advisory Group of the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust, *Minutes of a meeting of the trust advisory group of the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust*, 28 August 2017, <https://www.scgt.nsw.gov.au/media/3764/tag-minutes-28-august-2017.pdf> accessed 23 May 2018

7.4 Venues NSW have provided the attendance figures below:

	Stadium Australia		SCSGT Stadia		Total Stadia	
	Attendance '15/16	Attendance '16/17	Attendance '15/16	Attendance '16/17	Attendance '15/16	Attendance '16/17
Sporting event - International	153,321	199,467	249,535	401,340	402,856	600,807
Sporting event - National or local	752,538	932,597	1,153,592	1,034,182	1,906,130	1,966,779
Total Sporting events	905,859	1,132,064	1,403,127	1,435,522	2,308,986	2,567,586
Concerts	236,000	389,047	47,641	97,822	283,641	486,869
Misc. (e.g. functions, tours, events)			399,210	319,478	399,210	319,478
Total	1,141,859	1,521,111	1,849,978	1,852,822	2,991,837	3,373,933

7.5 The figures above include SCG Trust Stadium Stomp Stair Climbing Challenge, Stadium Fitness Centre visits and the SCG Tour Experience.

Sydney Football Stadium

7.6 The Sydney Football Stadium attracts capacity crowds for multiple sporting and entertainment events each year, including:

- a) NRL Anzac Day Cup (April 2018 – 41,142 attendees);
- b) Wallabies Test matches (June 2016 – 44,063 attendees);
- c) Sydney Sevens international rugby tournament (2017 – 75,000 attendees over tournament);
- d) NRL finals series matches (September 2016 – 37,000 attendees);
- e) A-League Sydney derby (January 2017 – 40,143 attendees);
- f) A-League finals series matches (May 2017 – 41,546 attendees);
- g) Concerts by touring artists (December 2016 – 97,822 attendees over two nights for Coldplay).

7.7 In 2016, the SCG Trust commissioned Repucom to undertake a survey of where Sydney Sports fans reside and their access to Sydney's major stadiums. The study which is based on 10,000 Australians and tracks their interest of NRL, Rugby Union, AFL and Football.

7.8 The study split Sydney into four regions and the below table shows where sporting fans live:

Sydney Region	Number of Fans	% of total fans
South & South West	1,133,000	23%
West	1,359,300	27%
North	770,500	15%
Central	1,736,000	35%
Total	4,998,800	

7.9 The study went into further detail in relation to how many fans actually attended sporting events from each region and which code they attended as outlined below:

Code	South West	West	North	Central
NRL	189,182	234,716	113,036	285,915
Rugby	51,507	49,399	57,152	176,892
AFL	90,141	93,885	74,512	227,745
Football	63,213	95,590	57,402	182,239
	394,043	473,590	302,102	872,791

7.10 The highest number of attendees were from the Central and West regions, comprising a total of 62% of all patrons.

7.11 The study went into more detail to explore where fans came from to attend Sydney's two major stadia, Sydney Football Stadium in the SCG precinct and Stadium Australia at Sydney Olympic Park. This question was asked during the winter football season.

Region	Sydney Football Stadium	Stadium Australia
South & South West	179,910	198,633
West	293,816	272,549
North	102,673	102,900
Central	424,429	408,265
Total	1,000,828	982,347

7.12 This research shows that, irrespective of their home location, fans are prepared to travel to events at both Sydney Football Stadium and Stadium Australia.

7.13 In relation to the effect of events on tourism, the SCG Trust provided the following examples:

- the 2014 Major League Baseball Opening Series at the SCG accounted for 92,000 bed nights in Sydney; 32,000 interstate, intrastate and overseas visitors and visitor total spend of \$26m;
- the 2016 Sydney Sevens at the Sydney Football Stadium accounted for 28,000 bed nights in Sydney; 9700 interstate, intrastate and overseas visitors and visitor total spend of \$6.7m;
- the 2016 Wallabies v England Rugby Test at the Sydney Football Stadium 19,000 bed nights; 8100 interstate, intrastate and overseas visitors and visitor total spend of \$4m.

7.14 Of all visitors to the Sydney Football Stadium, 19% are from interstate or overseas, spending money on accommodation, food and transport, all of which flows back into the economy, building business confidence and generating employment.²¹

7.15 In total, 53% of Sydney residents attended a sporting event and 30% of Sydneysiders have attended a music or cultural event at Sydney Football Stadium in the last five years.

²¹ OOS.0001.0097.

Stadium Australia

7.16 Since opening in 1999, after being purpose-built for the 2000 Sydney Olympics, Stadium Australia has welcomed more than 23 million spectators and has generated more than \$5 billion for the NSW economy, from approximately 600 sporting and entertainment events.²²

7.17 The 20 major events held at Stadium Australia between 2014 and 2016 generated:

- 280,000 new visitations, including 189,000 from international and interstate and 91,000 from intrastate;
- 722,000 visitor nights made up of 544,000 international and interstate visitor nights and 178,000 intrastate visitor nights; and
- total visitor expenditure of \$180 million.²³

7.18 In relation to total visitor numbers, in 2015, for example, Stadium Australia welcomed approximately 1,628,395 fans, across 52 events, and hosted more than 160 corporate and private events.

7.19 Venues NSW has advised that an estimated 19% of Stadium Australia spectators are interstate or international visitors.

7.20 Recent Stadium Australia attendance numbers are as follows:

- Guns and Roses (10 and 11 February 2017 – 87,680);
- Adele Live 2017 (10 and 11 March 2018 – 194,834);
- Justin Bieber – The Purpose Tour (15 March 2018 - 69,769);
- Liverpool FC v Sydney FC (24 May 2017 - 72,892);
- Holden State of Origin II – NSW Blues v Queensland Maroons (21 Jun 2017 - 82, 259);
- Arsenal FC v Sydney FC (13 July 2017 - 80,432); and
- 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia Qualifiers – intercontinental Socceroos v Honduras (15 November 2017 – 77,060).

7.21 In total, 63% of Sydneysiders have attended a live sporting event and 47% have attended a music or cultural event at Stadium Australia in the last five years.

Western Sydney Stadium

7.22 In total, 27% of Sydneysiders have attended a sporting event and 10% of Sydneysiders have attended a music or cultural event at Parramatta Stadium in the last five years.

7.23 According to Venues NSW, attendance figures for Parramatta Stadium are as follows (the Stadium's last event in the 2016/17 financial year was in September 2016. The Stadium then closed for redevelopment):

²² VEN.001.001.8829.

²³ OOS.0001.2571.

	Parramatta Stadium	
	Attendance '15/16	Attendance '16/17
Sporting event - International	12,840	
Sporting event - National or local	289,492	31,878
Total Sporting events	302,332	31,878
Concerts		
Total Sporting Events & Concerts	302,332	31,878
Misc. (e.g. Functions, Tours, Community events)	6,724	2,924
Total	309,056	34,802

8. Cost of the Strategy

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

1g) Total cost of the strategy, including acquisition, demolition, construction, compensation to sports clubs and associations, and the reasons for increases in costs

8.1 The announced capital costs of the Sydney stadiums strategy are:

- a) Western Sydney Stadium: \$360 million;
- b) Sydney Football Stadium: \$729 million; and
- c) Stadium Australia: \$810 million.

9. Impacts and Mitigation Strategies

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

1h) Impacts of the strategy on the community, including users of the Parramatta Memorial Pool and Parramatta Park, and proposed mitigation strategies

- 9.1 The *NSW Stadia Strategy* is a high-level document that sets out the NSW Government's priorities for the development of the government-owned stadia network. Impacts on communities are considered during the individual statutory planning process for each project.
- 9.2 The SCG Trust has two precinct advisory panels to improve the flow of information and understanding of current operations and any future works. The Trust Advisory Group (TAG) and the Members Advisory Group meet on a regular basis.
- 9.3 The purpose of the TAG is to provide feedback and advice on current and future plans for the SCG precinct and the operation of lands under the control of the Trust. The TAG is made of members of the local community, sports partners, small business representatives and other stakeholders. At times, advisory group meetings are attended by other relevant parties, such as Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust.
- 9.4 Both bodies take a collaborative approach to achieve broad precinct outcomes. Similarly, both groups enable the SCG Trust to better understand the concerns of its members, sports partners, neighbours and other stakeholders.

- 9.5 The *Western Sydney Stadium Community Consultative Committee* held its first meeting at the City of Parramatta on 12 March 2018, providing a forum for discussion between government, the community and relevant stakeholders. The second meeting was held on 7 May 2018.²⁴
- 9.6 The closure of Parramatta Memorial Pool was considered in the SSDA for the new Western Sydney Stadium, and an Interim Swimming Pool Management Plan was developed to mitigate the impact on pool users.²⁵
- 9.7 The NSW Government has also committed \$30 million in funding to enable City of Parramatta Council to deliver an equivalent facility.
- 9.8 The impact of the Western Sydney Stadium on Parramatta Park was also considered in the SSDA for the new Western Sydney Stadium²⁶, with the Stadium designed to better integrate with the surrounding parkland and the colour of the Stadium under-stays was darkened in response to the Heritage Council's concerns about the visual impact to the park.

10. Moore Park Green Space

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

1i) Options to protect, preserve and expand green space at Moore Park

- 10.1 The new Sydney Football Stadium will be built on land wholly administered by the SCG Trust and the precinct will be improved to better connect with the surrounding parklands.
- 10.2 The site compound will be entirely on SCG Trust-administered land. The site compound and new stadium will not have an impact on Moore Park East or Kippax Lake and the historic fig trees that surround the lake.²⁷
- 10.3 The development of the new stadium will eventually allow the opportunity to remove the black gates that enclose SCG Trust lands and provide new public boulevards and grassed areas shaded by mature trees. The development will vastly improve the venue's integration with the parklands and the residential communities that border the SCG precinct.²⁸

11. Other Matters

This section addresses the specific terms of reference:

1j) Any other related matter

- 11.1 The Agencies do not have any further comments in relation to other related matters.

²⁵ Infrastructure NSW, *Closure of Parramatta Swimming Centre - Interim Recreation Swimming Pool Management Plan*, March 2017, http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/media/1547/interim-recreation-swimming-pool-management-plan_version-a-final.pdf accessed 18 May 2018.

²⁶ ²⁶ Department of Planning & Environment, *State Significant Development Assessment Report: Western Sydney Stadium Concept Proposal & Stage 1 (SSD 7534)*, November 2016, <https://majorprojects.accelo.com/public/1c840e1bd82caff608115e4febbd3328/SSD%207534%20Assessment%20Report.pdf> accessed 23 May 2018

²⁷ VEN.003.002.3554.

²⁸ VEN.003.002.3554.