

Barton Deakin Brief: Greater Sydney Region Plan

25 October 2017

On 22 October the Greater Sydney Commission released their Greater Sydney Region Draft Plan in conjunction with NSW Transport’s NSW’s Future Transport Strategy 2056. These reports detail the plan for Sydney’s growth over the next 40 years. This report was compiled by the Greater Sydney Commission, which is an independent body and as a result the plan is not government policy at the time of writing.

This Barton Deakin Brief outlines the Greater Sydney Region Plan and the key objectives.

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Vision to 2056

By 2056 it’s expected that eight million people will call the Greater Sydney Region home. The Greater Sydney Region plan is a 40-year vision and a 20-year plan. The plan is built in a way that respects the current Greater Sydney communities, facilitates a minimum of 725,000 new dwellings, generates an extra 817,000 jobs and takes advantage of changing technological, lifestyle and economic trends.

The draft plan intends to deliver a metropolis of three cities, to rebalance growth opportunities across the wider Sydney. The Badgerys Creek Airport will be used as a catalyst in the Western Parkland City with three hubs centred around Penrith, Liverpool and Campbelltown. The plan prioritises infrastructure building early to support a growing Greater Sydney. The plan delivers three cities with the intention that all people living in Greater Sydney live within 30 minutes of one of the three cities.

The plan comprises of 40 key objectives based on 10 directions([see attachment](#))



About the Draft Plan

The Greater Sydney Commission developed the plan as an independent agency responsible for leading metropolitan planning for the Greater Sydney Region. The plan's purpose is to:

- Set up a 40-year vision, and a 20-year plan to manage growth and change for Greater Sydney,
- Inform district and local plans and the assessment of planning proposals,
- Assist infrastructure agencies to plan and deliver for growth and change and to align their infrastructure plans to location based outcomes,
- Inform the private sector of the vision for Greater Sydney and infrastructure investments required to manage growth and
- Inform and engage the wider community so the draft plan can best reflect the values and aspirations of all.

The draft plan sets the planning framework for the five districts which make up the Greater Sydney Region. The plan has been created in conjunction with NSW Transport's Future Transport Strategy 2056. The plan is on public display until 15 December 2017 and submissions can be made during this period.

As the Commission is an independent body the plan isn't government policy and contains numerous recommendations at the time of writing that aren't policy of the NSW government.

The Need for a Plan

The Greater Sydney Region is expected to go through significant changes over the next 40 years, with the population expected to increase from 4.7 million to 8 million by 2056. This increase will be coupled with an increasingly ageing population creating new opportunities and challenges to be faced and planning for these challenges is anticipated to help receive the greatest benefits. It's anticipated that an extra 725,000 homes will need to be provided over the next 20 years in the right areas and be supported by infrastructure to ensure liveability.

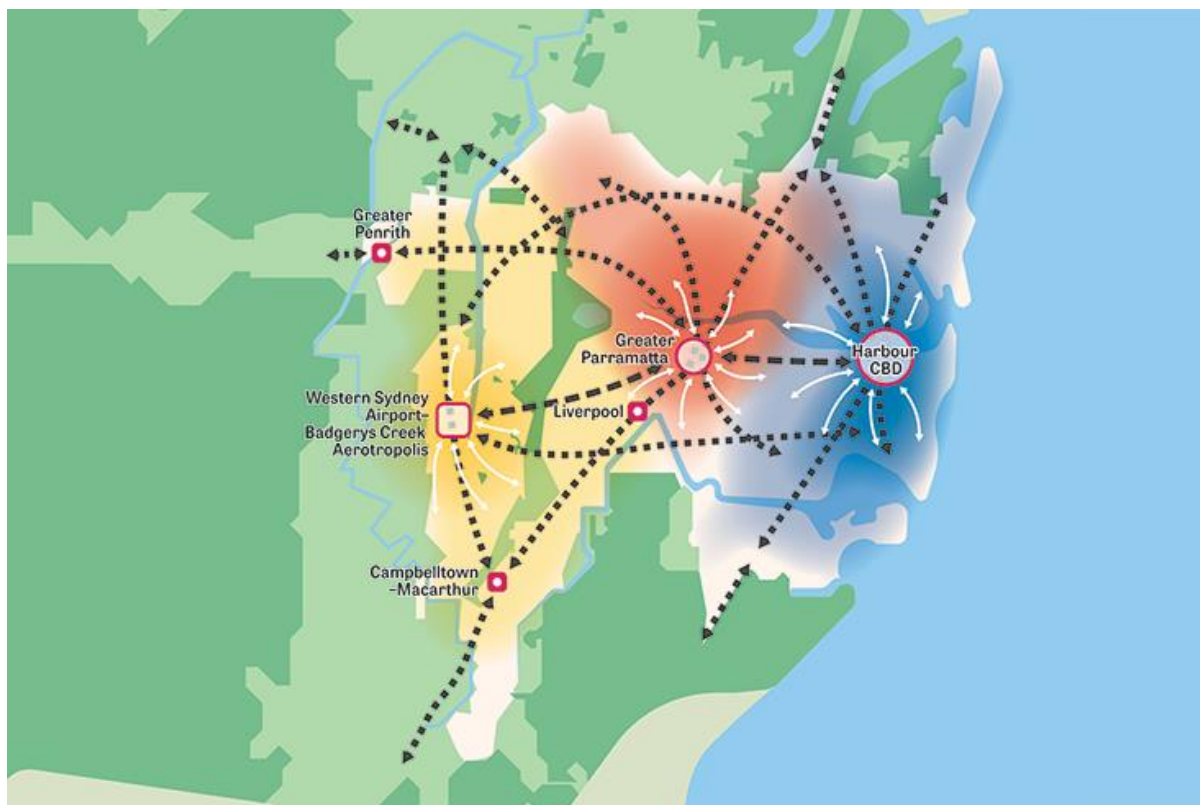
These will be provided with an additional 817,000 jobs by 2036 to meet the needs of a changing economy and workforce. The transport network will be planned in conjunction with these projects to ensure that the projected 22 million daily trips within Greater Sydney by 2036 have the proper connections.

All these factors have been weighed against the geography and landscape of the Greater Sydney Basin and the Greater Sydney Commission has factored in protection of these including having environmental diversity recognised in this plan.

The Plan and Its Challenges

The plan has developed a few key strategies to help ensure the Greater Sydney Region is prepared for expansion. The centre point of the plan is to focus on three cities. These are the **Eastern Harbour City** which takes in the current Sydney CBD and surrounding suburbs. The **Central River City** with the Greater Parramatta area as its heart. And the **Western Parkland City** with the new Aerotropolis around Badgerys Creek Airport being at the centre with hubs in Penrith, Liverpool and Campbelltown.

This vision has been developed in collaboration with NSW Transport to ensure that the residents of the Greater Sydney Area are within 30 minutes commute of one of these three cities.



Source: Greater Sydney Commission

One of the biggest challenges is that traditionally Sydney's jobs and transport have been focused in the east, which creates longer commute times for those travelling to employment. The three cities plan intends on adjusting the dedication of Sydney's resources to enable greater use of areas outside the Eastern Harbour City. This includes industry specialisation in each city.

Key Themes

The Plan contains four key themes to ensure success.

Infrastructure and Collaboration

Infrastructure development focuses on transport, schools and health facilities and are done through a collaborative whole-of-government approach in planning for growth. The Greater Sydney Commission plans on working with all levels of government to help generate benefits for communities. This is being done on the new Western Sydney Airport and planning being developed with local councils. In Greater Parramatta and the Olympic Peninsula, the Greater Sydney Commission is piloting a Growth Infrastructure Compact to test a new approach to planning with 22 government agencies.

Liveability

The focus of liveability is on changes in population and demand for different amenities and affordable homes. As the population ages demand for smaller homes will increase so planning needs to accommodate for the changing market. With housing targets of 725,000 the Greater Sydney Commission will work with councils to develop 6-10 year targets to be delivered in their housing strategies in ensuring that the right education and health facilities are available. The plan also recommends that the government adopt Affordable Rental Housing Targets of 5-10%.



Productivity

Productivity changes are being recommended to move Sydney into the top 10 global economic cities. This is proposed through greater connectivity between locations. It means connecting the Eastern Harbour City, Central River City, and Western Parklands City to ensure that one of these three cities are within 30 minutes of public transport for every household. In addition to this a competitive freight and logistics network needs to be developed as new driverless technology becomes a bigger factor in the transport field and as Port Botany and Port Kembla bring in more freight traffic.

Sustainability

Sustainability has been factored into the plan to ensure that urban development is managed to protect, restore and enhance Sydney's landscape, waterways, coastline, natural areas, metropolitan rural lands, tree canopy and open spaces. This means more efficient use of water, energy resources and waste. The plan contains aims to reduce costs, carbon emissions and environmental impacts and move towards a target of net-zero emissions by 2050.

Further Information

Greater Sydney Commission's plan for 2056 can be found [here](#).

NSW Transport's Future Transport Strategy 2056 can be found [here](#).

Barton Deakin Brief on the Sydney Aerotropolis can be found [here](#).

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To stay up to date with the affairs of Coalition Governments and Oppositions around Australia, you can follow Barton Deakin on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



Attachments:

Directions	<p>A city support by infrastructure</p> <p>Infrastructure supporting new developments</p>	<p>A Collaborative city</p> <p>Working Together to grow a Greater Sydney</p>	<p>A city for people</p> <p>Celebrating diversity and putting people at the heart of planning</p>	<p>Housing the city</p> <p>Giving people housing choices</p>	<p>A city of great places</p> <p>Designing places for people</p>
Metrics	<p>Number of land use plans support by infrastructure plans</p>	<p>Proportion of agreed outcomes achieve in Collaboration Areas</p>	<p>Annual survey of community sentiment</p>	<p>Number of councils on track to deliver housing targets Number of councils with schemes that implement Affordable Rental Housing Targets</p>	<p>Percentage of dwellings within walking distance of a local or strategic centre Percentage of dwellings within walking distance of open space</p>
Objectives	<p>Objective 1: Infrastructure supports the three cities</p> <p>Objective 2: Infrastructure aligns with forecast growth</p> <p>Objective 3: Infrastructure adapts to meet future needs</p> <p>Objective 4: Infrastructure use is optimised</p>	<p>Objective 5: Benefits of growth realised by collaboration of governments, community and business</p>	<p>Objective 6: Services and infrastructure meet communities' changing needs</p> <p>Objective 7: Communities are healthy, resilient and socially connected</p> <p>Objective 8: Greater Sydney's communities are culturally rich with diverse neighbourhoods</p> <p>Objective 9: Greater Sydney celebrates the arts and supports creative industries and innovation</p>	<p>Objective 10: Greater housing supply</p> <p>Objective 11: Housing is more diverse and affordable</p>	<p>Objective 12: Great places that bring people together</p> <p>Objective 13: Environmental heritage is conserved and enhanced</p>



Directions	A well connected city Developing a more accessible and walkable city	Jobs and skills for the city Creating the conditions for a stronger economy	A city in its landscape Valuing green spaces and landscape	An efficient city Using resources wisely	A resilient city Adapting to a change world
Metrics	Percentage of dwellings located within 30 minutes by public transport of a metropolitan city centre/cluster Percentage of dwellings located within 30 minutes by public transport of a strategic centre	Growth in jobs in targeted metropolitan and strategic centres Change in number of people employed locally(five yearly)	Proportional increase in Greater Sydney covered by urban tree canopy	Number of precincts with low-carbon initiatives	Number of local government areas undertaking resilience planning
Objectives	<p>Objective 14: A metropolis of three cities – integrated land use and transport creates walkable and 30-minute cities</p> <p>Objective 15: The Eastern, GOP and Western Economic Corridors are better connected and more competitive</p> <p>Objective 16: Freight and logistics network is competitive and efficient</p> <p>Objective 17: Regional transport is integrated with land use</p>	<p>Objective 18: Harbour CBD is stronger and more competitive</p> <p>Objective 19: Greater Parramatta is stronger and better connected</p> <p>Objective 20: Western Sydney Airport and Badgerys Creek Aerotropolis are economic catalysts for Western Parkland City</p> <p>Objective 21: Internationally competitive health, education, research and innovation precincts</p> <p>Objective 22: Investment and business activity in centres</p> <p>Objective 23: Industrial and urban services land is planned, protected and managed</p> <p>Objective 24: Economic sectors are targeted for success</p>	<p>Objective 25: The coast and waterways are protected and healthier</p> <p>Objective 26: A cool and green parkland city in the South Creek corridor</p> <p>Objective 27: Biodiversity is protected, urban bushland and remnant vegetation is enhanced</p> <p>Objective 28: Scenic and cultural landscapes are protected</p> <p>Objective 29: Environmental, social and economic values in rural areas are maintained and enhanced</p> <p>Objective 30: Urban tree canopy cover is increased</p> <p>Objective 31: Public open space is accessible protected and enhanced</p> <p>Objective 32: The Green Grid Links Parks, open spaces bushland and walking and cycling paths</p>	<p>Objective 33: A low-carbon city contributes to net-zero emissions by 2050 and mitigates climate change</p> <p>Objective 34: Energy and water flows are captured, used and re-used</p> <p>Objective 35: More waste is re-used and recycled to support the development of a circular economy</p>	<p>Objective 36: People and places adapt to climate change and future shocks and stresses</p> <p>Objective 37: Exposure to natural and urban hazards is reduced</p> <p>Objective 38: Heatwaves and extreme heat are managed</p>
Implementation					
<p>Objective 39: A collaborative approach to city planning</p> <p>Objective 40: Plans refined by monitoring and reporting</p>					