



**Greater Sydney  
Parklands**

9 April 2021

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Attention: Peter Pham

**Draft Westmead Place Strategy**

Dear Peter,

Thank you for taking the time to meet to discuss the draft Westmead Place Strategy which outlines the vision for Westmead to become a world-class health and innovation district over the next 20 years. Greater Sydney Parklands welcomes the preparation of the draft Strategy and the opportunity to comment on it.

The significant 85-hectare World Heritage Listed Parramatta Park, located at the heart of the River City between Parramatta CBD and Westmead, will play a fundamental role in realising the health, wellbeing and respite components of the vision for Westmead as outlined in the draft Strategy. Parramatta Park will play a key role as a place to deliver a number of the outcomes identified in the draft Strategy including connectivity, heritage, greening, respite, events and programs.

The Park is already well loved by the community with over 2 million visitors per annum and growing each year. Many of our visitors come from the surrounding suburbs or from Westmead Hospital and the associated health facilities. With the transfer of Wistaria Gardens from NSW Health to Parramatta Park Trust in train scheduled to be complete in 2021, the value of the Park will continue to grow.

Open space and parklands provide a pivotal role to the health and wellbeing of our communities. We look forward to continuing our discussions and working with you as you finalise the draft Strategy placing more emphasis on Parramatta Park throughout the final Strategy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J French', with a horizontal line underneath.

Joshua French  
Director Strategy, Design and Delivery  
Greater Sydney Parklands



Health

14 May 2021

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Submission to Westmead 2036 Draft Place Strategy**

The Westmead Health Precinct partners welcome the opportunity to comment on the *Westmead Draft Place Strategy*.

The precinct partners – currently Westmead Hospital, Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (comprising The Children's Hospital at Westmead and Kids Research), Westmead Private Hospital, Children's Medical Research Institute, Westmead Institute for Medical Research, NSW Health Pathology, University of Sydney, and Western Sydney University – have been working together for almost two decades to support Westmead's development as a world-leading health, education, research, and innovation precinct.

The precinct partners support a whole-of-government, collaborative approach to delivering world-class research, innovation and services, and commend the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) for their work to support the future development of the Westmead Health and Innovation District.

While precinct partners may lodge individual submissions, this submission represents consolidated feedback from all partners and a shared vision and approach to Westmead's future development.

The Westmead Precinct partners support the draft strategy and its vision for Westmead as Australia's premier health and innovation district, with exceptional place outcomes, activated spaces, connected communities, housing choice, and enhanced heritage and environmental assets.

To discuss the issues raised in this submission further, please contact Ann-Maree Carruthers, Executive Director, Precincts and Partnerships, Health Infrastructure, [Ann-Maree.Carruthers@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ann-Maree.Carruthers@health.nsw.gov.au).

**NSW Ministry of Health**

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We look forward to working across government and with other stakeholders on the implementation of the strategy.

Yours sincerely



Graeme Loy

Chief Executive  
Western Sydney Local Health District



Cathryn Cox

Chief Executive  
Sydney Children's Hospitals Network



Rebecca Wark

Chief Executive  
Health Infrastructure

On behalf of the Westmead Health Precinct partners

Attachment: Westmead Health Precinct Partners comments on Westmead 2036 Draft Place Strategy

## Introduction

The Westmead Health Precinct partners welcome the opportunity to comment on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's **Westmead 2036 Draft Place Strategy**.

The partners' comments are based on their significant experience as anchor institutions and long-term stakeholders within the precinct. The partners represent a diverse group; each offering different contributions to the precinct and its development; but working towards a shared vision of establishing Westmead as a health, research, and education powerhouse.

The Westmead Health Precinct sits within the broader Westmead Health and Innovation District. It is one of the largest health, education, research and training precincts in Australia, and a key provider of jobs for the greater Parramatta and western Sydney regions.

The Westmead Health Precinct partners include:

- Westmead Hospital (Western Sydney Local Health District)
- The Children's Hospital at Westmead (Sydney Children's Hospitals Network)
- ICPMR - Pathology West (NSW Pathology)
- Westmead Private Hospital
- Children's Medical Research Institute (CMRI)
- Westmead Institute for Medical Research (WIMR)
- The University of Sydney (USyd)
- Western Sydney University (WSU)

The Westmead Health Precinct partners work together in an integrated and co-ordinated way to deliver health, research and education services to western Sydney, NSW, and Australia, while also collaborating to further establish Westmead as an internationally renowned Innovation District.

Westmead's health, education and research core has undergone a significant transformation in recent years. More than \$3 billion has been committed by government, universities, and the private sector to upgrade and expand health, education, and research facilities.

This includes the \$1 billion Westmead Redevelopment project which has created new, state-of-the-art clinical facilities. The Westmead Redevelopment project included a new 14-storey Central Acute Services Building, co-locating emergency departments for Westmead Hospital and The Children's Hospital at Westmead, along with enhanced education spaces with the University of Sydney. Stage 2 of The Children's Hospital at Westmead redevelopment is now in the planning phase and will include a new Paediatric Services Building and multi-storey car park. Connectivity to and within the precinct is also set to improve with the introduction of Parramatta Light Rail services at Westmead, along with a Sydney Metro West station, while research capacity will accelerate and advance, courtesy of a new \$25m viral vector facility.

The Westmead Precinct partners are committed to establishing Westmead as a vibrant, accessible city to live, work and play, and support the DPI's place-making approach.

## Summary of feedback

The Westmead Health Precinct partners' comments (listed below) aim to support and strengthen the **Westmead 2036 Draft Place Strategy**. The precinct partners, in partnership with other stakeholders, are keen to be involved in future planning to create the "premier health and innovation district, with exceptional place outcomes," as specified in the strategy's vision.

**Specific comments to the Westmead 2036 Draft Place Strategy are provided below.**

**1. Drive change in the innovation eco-system to accelerate delivery of Australia's premier health and innovation system**

The precinct is already home to several world-leading hospitals, research institutes and universities, all revolutionising clinical care. The precinct partners support plans to expand these activities, via new industries, jobs, and training schemes. The partners have long worked collaboratively to explore opportunities to grow both their facilities and workforce to deliver further developments in clinical care, research, and education, along with opportunities for industry partnerships and commercialisation.

The precinct partners support the drive for new, innovative models of healthcare and to grow the research profile and presence at Westmead. The recent redevelopment projects at Westmead Hospital and The Children's Hospital at Westmead, along with completed and proposed developments at Westmead Private Hospital, are helping to deliver new models of care, while a renewed commitment to enhancing the precinct's research capabilities will help address current floor-space and capacity issues.

**2. Cherish and protect places of significance, conserve and revitalise heritage and cultural assets to create exceptional places**

The precinct partners endorse retaining and celebrating Westmead's unique heritage. Westmead has several places of First Peoples and European cultural and heritage significance, particularly around Parramatta North, and the precinct partners are dedicated to respecting and enhancing these cultural assets. The Westmead Redevelopment project has sought opportunities to engage with the local Aboriginal community and pay tribute to local history in its new hospital buildings and design. The precinct partners support the involvement of the local Indigenous community in place-making, acknowledging the importance of recognising land, environment, and Aboriginal culture within the precinct. The precinct partners support plans to revitalise heritage assets around the precinct, noting the partners' contributions to many current collections, as well as their efforts in retaining key landmarks across the precinct.

**3. Activate and connect our community with vibrant, diverse, and well-connected public spaces and places**

The precinct partners endorse further activation of the precinct, particularly the commitment to improve overall connectivity. Westmead is already home to a significant health, research, and education workforce, along with a growing number of families and children, who would benefit from a more vibrant, connected precinct. Improved wayfinding, particularly to health and research facilities, along with increased pedestrian links and green space would fit well with the precinct partners' commitment to activating public space within its buildings and facilities. The precinct partners also support an integrated approach to land use, with the partners' various facilities focused on offering a diverse mix of world-class health, research, and education, along with open, commercial, and retail spaces. For example, the new Central Acute Services Building couples clinical facilities with an open forecourt and retail sector, while Western Sydney University's planned Westmead campus will deliver an activated plaza, with links to the health core. The precinct partners also support the activation of night-time economy activities throughout the precinct but note it would need to be well-balanced with key health, research, and education activities, as well as residents' amenities.

#### **4. Deliver high-quality and diverse housing for students, workers, and professionals, with optimal liveability outcomes**

The precinct partners support the plan to deliver diverse housing and accommodation within the precinct. Westmead's population is predicted to grow in the coming years, with jobs swelling to 50,000 by 2036, making additional housing and short and long-term accommodation options a priority. The precinct partners support a strategy for an array of housing options, particularly a focus on offering affordable and social housing, along with provisions for different cultural groups. The precinct partners would welcome the opportunity to contribute to planning around housing diversity within the precinct.

#### **5. Capitalise on transport connectivity and reduce car dependency**

The partners commend the desire to capitalise on increased connectivity delivered by the Parramatta Light Rail and Sydney Metro West to reduce car dependency. Improved connectivity to, and within, the precinct will increase connections between Westmead and Parramatta, along with the Sydney CBD. It will also relieve the reliance on car transport and parking, along with congestion, which have been long-standing issues. The precinct partners heavily support the plan to prepare an integrated transport and traffic study to examine road infrastructure and analyse traffic, while also exploring shifts to public and active transport. A renewed focus on walking and cycling is also supported, particularly around the precinct's health, education, and research core. Connectivity and clear wayfinding from the new light rail and metro stations to precinct assets, along with improved pedestrian walkways and cycleways around all precinct infrastructure, will be critical in ensuring Westmead is a desirable place to work, learn, visit and receive care.



April 2021

Mr Jim Betts  
Secretary  
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124

Dear Mr Betts,

**RE: SINSW SUBMISSION TO DRAFT WESTMEAD PLACE STRATEGY**

SINSW welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Westmead Place Strategy (the Draft Strategy). SINSW is the NSW Government agency that works to ensure that every school-aged child in NSW has access to high quality education facilities at their local government school. Schools are key social infrastructure that support communities, and our submission reflects our role as landowners and providers of educational services and facilities within the Precinct.

SINSW operates ten schools in the precinct comprising four co-educational Kindergarten to Year 6 schools (Darcy Road, Bayanami, Northmead and Westmead Public Schools), three co-educational secondary schools (Parramatta, Pendle Hill and Northmead Creative & Performing Arts High Schools), and three special purpose schools (Redbank, Palm Avenue and The Children's Hospital Schools). Immediately adjacent to the precinct north of the M4 motorway, there are six primary schools (Parramatta West, Parramatta North, Toongabbie, Toongabbie East, Toongabbie West and Wentworthville Public Schools) and one co-educational secondary school (Arthur Phillip High School); adjacent schools may be considered in relation to potential boundary changes to balance demand and capacity between an area's schools. The precinct also includes the Western Sydney University Westmead Campus and a cluster of private schools.

SINSW notes that existing and future school sites within the precinct have been the subject of ongoing consultation between DPIE and SINSW, separate to the Draft Strategy.

SINSW acknowledges that the Draft Westmead Place Strategy (the Strategy) has a 20 year planning horizon to 2036 and is the opportunity to propose bold moves to facilitate the evolution of Westmead as a world-class health and innovation district with exceptional place outcomes for workers, residents and students. SINSW supports this vision and considers education to be a key driver of innovation. In particular, SINSW support the action to *"investigate opportunities for primary and secondary school needs, noting projected residential growth in Westmead South and Parramatta North"* (Action D7.A2).

SINSW supports the priorities and actions of the Draft Strategy that facilitate the delivery of primary and secondary schools for a growing community, provides a supportive urban environment for children and young people, identifies and delivers new, or enhanced, active transport links to and from school sites and transport hubs, and which work with the natural and cultural assets of the precinct.



SINSW is committed to working closely with DPIE to discuss outcomes and actions that support the vision for Westmead and our schools.

Should you require further information about this matter, please contact Alejandra Rojas at [alejandra.rojas1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:alejandra.rojas1@det.nsw.edu.au) and Katie Weaver at [Katie.Weaver@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Katie.Weaver@det.nsw.edu.au).

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Carpenter".

Alix Carpenter  
**Director - Statutory Planning**

Ms Jazmin Van Veen  
A/Director, Central (GPOP)  
Metro Central and North  
Department of Planning and Environment  
[REDACTED]

## Draft Westmead Place Strategy

Dear Ms Van Veen

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Westmead Place Strategy (draft Strategy) prepared by the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department). We have reviewed the draft Strategy and provide the following advice for your consideration.

### State, National and World Heritage

Our records show that draft Strategy area contains the following heritage sites:

- the National heritage listed 'Parramatta Female Factory and Institutions Precinct', which includes the State Heritage Register (SHR) listed:
  - 'Norma Parker Correctional Centre' (SHR 00811)
  - 'Cumberland District Hospital Group' (SHR 00820)
- the SHR listed 'Parramatta Correctional Centre' (SHR 00812), and
- 'Oddfellows Arms Inn' (SHR 00276).

The draft Strategy area is also located directly next to the World, National and State heritage listed 'Old Government House and Government Domain, Parramatta' part of the UNESCO World Heritage listed 'Australian Convict Sites'.

Care must be taken to avoid impacts on the World, National and State heritage items identified above, and consideration needs to be given as to how to mitigate any impacts where they are unavoidable.

### Mapping and identification of heritage items

We recommend that the mapping of heritage items should be reviewed across the document to correct inaccuracies, for example:

- Direction 9 incorrectly maps the western part of the 'Cumberland District Hospital Group', and
- the Parramatta Light Rail line through the 'Cumberland District Hospital Group' is shown as white and does not appear to be SHR listed, see Figures 1 and 2 below for comparison between the draft Strategy and the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the site, and
- the Plan of Sub-Precinct 6 – Northmead Enterprise contains two land parcels which form part of the SHR listed 'Parramatta Correctional Centre'. These parcels are identified as rezoned land for mixed-use development (See Figure 3 below, shown in blue), However, there is no mention in the mapping or written content in of this section that these sites are heritage listed.

The above is not an exhaustive list. All heritage sites need to be identified accurately throughout the draft Strategy so that future development can be planned sympathetically.



Figure 1 – Extract from draft Strategy showing mapping inaccuracies for Cumberland District Hospital Group



Figure 2 – Extract from Cumberland District Hospital Group Conservation Management Plan

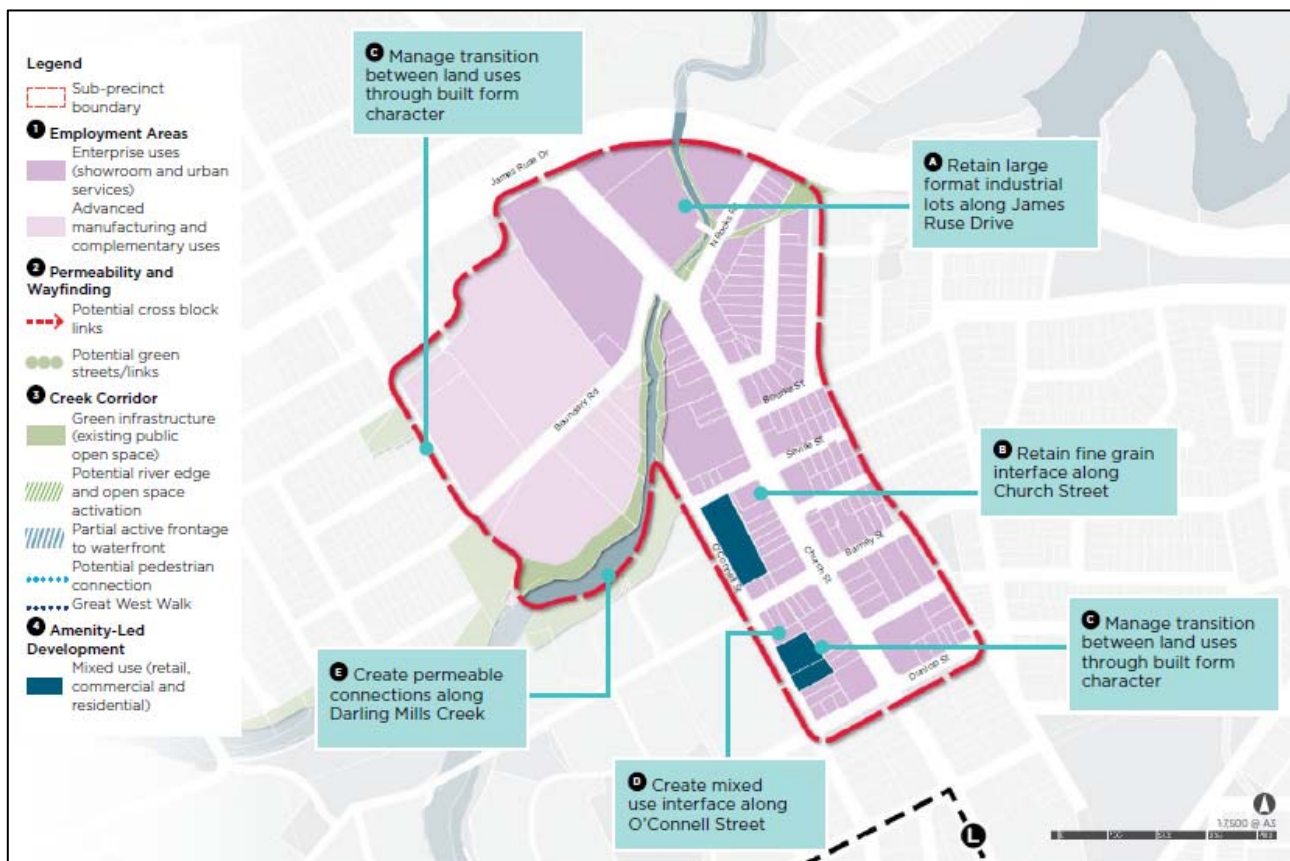


Figure 3 – Extract from draft Strategy showing mapping inaccuracies for Parramatta Correctional Centre

## **Recognition of the significance of the whole of the Parramatta North historic site**

The draft Strategy emphasises the conservation and activation of the National heritage listed Parramatta North heritage core. We recommend that equal focus should be given to the SHR listings across the Parramatta North historic site, i.e. 'Cumberland District Hospital Group', 'Parramatta Correctional Centre', and 'Norma Parker Correctional Centre'.

The draft Strategy focuses on identifying and protecting significant heritage buildings within the Parramatta North precinct. This could be interpreted as indicating that the only important element of these heritage listings are the buildings, which is incorrect. We recommend that the draft Strategy be modified to acknowledge the full heritage significance of the precinct, as identified in the Parramatta North Historic Sites CMP, including:

- the open spaces between these buildings
- landscape setting, vegetation and cultural landscape elements
- archaeological sites, including Aboriginal Cultural Heritage deposits and objects, and
- view and vistas.

A key place outcome for Sub-Precinct 7 – Parramatta North includes “Respecting the World Heritage of Parramatta Park”. We recommend that in addition to this, there should be outcomes to respect significant National and State heritage listed sites.

## **Proposed density/height of development**

The proposed density of development across the North Parramatta heritage precinct is unclear in the draft Strategy. Content such as “emphasis on tall slender building envelopes” (p. 90) is concerning as tower development is incompatible with the significant heritage values of core areas of the precinct.

## **Interface with the Norma Parker Centre**

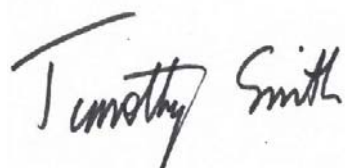
It is unclear why the land around Bankwest Stadium is shown white. Although this area is outside the boundaries of the Strategy, the document should note that the land between the stadium and the Norma Parker Centre forms part of the ‘highly sensitive area’ of the Old Government House and Domain, as outlined in the Conservation Agreement of the World Heritage Values and National Heritage Values of the Australian Convict Sites, Old Government House and Domain.

## **Heritage Guidance**

Heritage NSW has several publications which may be of assistance in addressing the heritage objectives of the draft Strategy. These publications are available online at [heritage.nsw.gov.au/search-for-heritage/publications-and-resources/](https://heritage.nsw.gov.au/search-for-heritage/publications-and-resources/).

If you have any questions about this matter, or would like to arrange a meeting to discuss any of the above, please contact [REDACTED], Senior Heritage Planning Officer, Heritage Assessments at Heritage NSW by phone on [REDACTED] or email at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



**Tim Smith OAM**  
**Director, Heritage Assessments**  
**Heritage NSW**  
As delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW

7 June 2022



16 February 2021

Jazmin van Veen  
Acting Director, Central (GPOP)  
Places, Design and Public Spaces | Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE)  
4 Paramatta Square, 12 Darcy St Parramatta NSW 2150

## **Draft Westmead Place Strategy**

Dear Jazmin

Thank you for providing Sydney Water with a link to the Westmead 2036 – Draft Place Strategy in December 2020. Sydney Water are committed to providing innovative and sustainable integrated water services to support the vision of the DPIE and the Greater Sydney Commission (GSC). Sydney Water have reviewed the draft Place Strategy and notes the following points:

Sydney Water is developing an Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) for Greater Parramatta to Olympic Park (GPOP) in response to the GSC's Place-based Infrastructure Compact (PIC) proposals. Of note, the PIC identifies a resource recovery facility and recycled water network across GPOP as one of the priority projects to be delivered in the next 10 years.

In line with this, Sydney Water utilises an Integrated Water Management (IWM) Planning approach, encompassing the total water cycle, that will help improve resiliency of water supply and support sustainability and the creation of a green and blue grid within the draft Westmead Place strategy.

To assist Sydney Water's provision of water and wastewater services and continuing support of the Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP), Sydney Water requests that DPIE provide anticipated ultimate and annual growth projections based on the Westmead Place Strategy. Sydney Water appreciates that these numbers are subject to change and will treat them as indicative. We also request to be kept updated should they change throughout the process.

Sydney Water believes that the boundary area in question appears slightly amended than previously initially identified. As such Sydney Water kindly requests a GIS Map of the boundary area along with any anticipated staging zones within the area. This information, along with ultimate and annual demand expectation, is critical for Sydney Water to assess the total impact of the proposed changes and to enable Sydney Water to effectively plan for water related infrastructure in a controlled and sequenced manner. The delivery of water and wastewater infrastructure to service growth is subject to internal funding gateways which requires confidence in the proposed growth to justify the funding approvals.

Please note that network extensions or amplifications may be required to service the redevelopment areas. These will be assessed at the section 73 (Sydney Water Act) application stage. We advise early engagement on large scale developments within the Westmead precinct to facilitate efficient identification of asset upgrade requirements to meet development timescale demands. Should you wish to discuss this further, please contact the Growth Planning Team at [urbangrowth@sydneywater.com.au](mailto:urbangrowth@sydneywater.com.au).

We appreciate the continued opportunity to collaborate with DPIE on Westmead specifically and GOPP generally and look forward to locking in our infrastructure program to support housing development in the area. Sydney Water would welcome a meeting with DPIE to discuss Westmead and other GOPP place strategies in more detail.

Yours sincerely

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**Kristine Leitch**

Commercial Growth Manager  
City Growth and Development, Business Development  
Sydney Water, 1 Smith Street, Parramatta NSW 2150