

STRATEGY & INNOVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFIRMED MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held 4 August 2019 at 5.30 – 7.00 pm
Via Zoom

Meeting No. 3



1. MEETING OPEN

Chairperson, Deputy Lord Mayor, Cr Declan Clausen, opened the meeting at 5.34 pm and welcomed attendees.

The Chairperson acknowledged the Awabakal and Worimi people as the traditional custodians of Newcastle and paid respect to elder past, present and future.

The meeting attendance was noted as:

Committee Members present:

Cr Declan Clausen	Chairperson
Cr Matthew Byrne	Deputy Chairperson
Cr Brad Luke	Councillor
Prof. Alex Zelinsky	Vice Chancellor, University of Newcastle
Mr Bob Hawes	CEO, Hunter Business Chamber
Ms Alison McGaffin	Director, Hunter and Central Coast, Regional NSW
Mr Rhett Morson	Community Representative
Mr Brett Smith	Committee Facilitator / Director Strategy & Engagement
Ms Natalie Peattie	Committee Secretary

Apologies received:

Cr Nuatali Nelmes	Lord Mayor
Mr Larry Platt	Industry Representative, Advitech

Committee Members absent:

Mr Joe James	CEO, Hunter Joint Organisation
--------------	--------------------------------

Guests

Ms Ashlee Abbott	Manager Community, Strategy & Innovation
Dr Nathaniel Bavinton	Innovation & Futures Manager
Mr Simon Massey	Economic Strategy & Government Relation Manager
Mr Simon Grierson	Manager Transport and Compliance
Mr David Clarke	Director Governance

2. STANDING ITEMS

2.1. Pecuniary Declaration/ Conflict of Interest

Nil received.

2.2. Meeting Minutes

The draft minutes of 5 November 2019 as circulated be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: Cr Matthew Byrne

SECONDED: Ms Alison McGaffin

2.3. Actions Arising

Actions discussed. Director Strategy and Engagement to investigate guest speakers.

3. FOR INFORMATION

3.1. COVID-19 Community and Economic Resilience Package (CERP) and City Taskforce

The Economic Strategy & Government Relations Manager gave a presentation (attached) to the Committee in addition to the Briefing Note included in the Agenda.

The Committee discussed and noted the following:

- The recent Community Grant Programs was oversubscribed and fully expended.
- The City Analytics initiative is a partnership with Hunter Research Foundation Centre that includes an evaluation of the CERP to inform future initiatives.
- CN recently opened Placemaking and other grants with applications closing on 12 August 2020.

3.2. Heatwave and Homelessness Strategy

The Briefing Note included in the Agenda was noted along with the following:

- Director Hunter and Central Coast, Regional NSW indicated that there is potential to partner with Department Communities and Families and Regional NSW on this work. Director Hunter and Central Coast, Regional NSW to facilitate contact between organisations.

4. FOR DISCUSSION

4.1. Economic Development Strategy (EDS)

The Economic Strategy & Government Relations Manager gave a presentation (attached) to the Committee in addition to the Briefing Note included in the Agenda.

The Committee discussed and noted the following:

- Strong interest from committee members to be involved in the development of the EDS.
- Growth for Newcastle and the region requires leveraging of existing strengths, skills and businesses to encourage strategic partnerships and need to ensure that Newcastle is marketed at a global level.
- Discussion around Government support – specifically for retaining staff including apprentices.
- Discussion around Newcastle's categorisation (metro or regional) and how the EDS can align to specific economic functions. Noted also that promoting all of the region will assist everyone involved. LGA self-interest could be damaging. Also need to ensure that we promote Newcastle as the strategic centre and economic engine for the region.

The Economic Strategy & Government Relations Manager conducted a *Mentimeter exercise* – (results attached).

4.2. Digital Prospectus

The Economic Strategy & Government Relations Manager gave a presentation (attached) to the Committee in addition to the Briefing Note included in the Agenda.

The Committee discussed and noted the following:

- A global brand for Newcastle/The Hunter
- Digital Prospectus vs Data Portal.

- Working toward setting up an internal portal to share information.

4.3. Living Lab Framework

The Innovations & Futures Manager gave a presentation (attached) to the Committee in addition to the Briefing Note included in the Agenda.

The Committee discussed and noted the following:

- Strong alignment between the Living Lab approach and that being taken by the University of Newcastle.
- There is a need to identify the pathway for Government to be able to change legislation is a critical element of this work.

4.4. Cycling and Parking Strategy

The Director Governance gave a verbal presentation to the Committee in addition to the Briefing Note included in the Agenda.

The Committee discussed and noted the following:

- The community generally underestimates the effect of cars on the environment.
- Consider terminology – micro mobility and cycling for innovation.
- There needs to be layers of change to help the community adjust to the significant changes currently occurring in Newcastle. Significant development has meant changes to parking and cycling in the CBD. TfNSW needs to be a key stakeholder.
- Overseas studies show that when you change parking to other forms of transportation, support for local businesses increases.
- Discussion around parallels between Canberra and Newcastle. Canberra has a major shopping centre as part of its CBD. Newcastle's CBD cannot compete with free parking at key shopping centres (eg Westfield at Kotara).
- Public transport is a missing piece of the puzzle in Newcastle.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

No matters raised.

6. MEETING SUMMARY AND ACTIONS

Next Meeting:

To be advised.

Meeting closed:

The meeting closed at 7.27pm.



Chairperson, Cr Declan Clausen

16 December 2020

Date