

STRATEGY & INNOVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFIRMED MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held 2 February 2021 at 5.30 – 7.30 pm
Banquet Room, City Hall, 290 King Street, Newcastle

Meeting No. 5



1. MEETING OPEN

Chair, Deputy Lord Mayor, Cr Declan Clausen, opened the meeting at 5.39 pm and welcomed attendees.

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

The meeting attendance was noted as:

Committee Members present:

Cr Declan Clausen	Chairperson, City of Newcastle (CN)
Cr Matthew Byrne	Deputy Chairperson, CN
Cr Brad Luke	Councillor, CN (left 6.30pm)
Prof. Alex Zelinsky	Vice Chancellor, University of Newcastle (UON)
Mr Bob Hawes	CEO, Hunter Business Chamber (HBC)
Mr Larry Platt	Industry Representative, Advitech
Mr Joe James	CEO, Hunter Joint Organisation (arrived 5.50pm)
Mr Rhett Morson	Community Representative
Mr Brett Smith	Committee Facilitator / Director Strategy & Engagement, CN
Ms Natalie Peattie	Committee Secretary, CN

Apologies received:

Cr Nuatali Nelmes	Lord Mayor, CN
Ms Alison McGaffin	Director, Department of Regional NSW
Mr Michael Shuman	The New Local

Guests

Dr Anthea Bill	Lead Economist, Hunter Research Foundation Centre (HRFC), UON
Mr Mark McClean	Deputy Director, Department of Regional NSW
Ms Ashlee Abbott	Manager Community, Strategy & Innovation, CN
Dr Nathaniel Bavinton	Innovation & Futures Manager, CN
Mr Simon Massey	Economic Strategy & Government Relation Manager, CN
Mr Gilbert Rochecouste	The New Local
Mrs Deborah Moldrich	Manager Customer Experience, CN (left 6.45pm)
Ms Georgia Lazzari	Tourism Manager, CN

2. STANDING ITEMS

2.1. Pecuniary Declaration/ Conflict of Interest

Nil received.

2.2. Meeting Minutes

The draft 18 November 2020 meeting minutes circulated with the agenda were accepted.

MOVED: Mr Larry Platt **SECONDED:** Cr Brad Luke

2.3. Actions Arising

Nil.

3. FOR INFORMATION

3.1. Economic Briefing

Dr Anthea Bill, HRFC UON presented an update on economic insights (copy at **Attachment A**).

The committee noted that the data highlighted COVID-19's significant impact on the local economy.

The committee discussed concern for the high youth unemployment rate; especially when combined with the youth participation rate figures.

4. FOR DISCUSSION

4.1. Economic Development Strategy (EDS)

CN's Economic Strategy & Government Relations Manager presented an update on the development of the EDS (copy at **Attachment B**).

Council report seeking approval to exhibit draft EDS scheduled for 23 February 2021.

Highlights – partnership approach. Acknowledge TAFE. International – English as a second language completed a workshop with CN. Often an overlooked sector.

Youth also engaged.

Proposed that S&I committee continue to provide a governance role with advisory input. Standing agenda item to provide updates.

New Local is the foundational framework for the EDS. New Local representative gave a presentation (**Attachment C**).

Information on successful superfunds case studies: [Nova Scotia Securities Commission: Community Economic-Development Investment Funds](#) and [Farmworks Investment Co-operative Limited](#).

4.2. Destination Management Plan (DMP)

CN's Tourism Manager presented an update on the DMP approved at the 24 November 2020 Council Meeting for public exhibition (copy at **Attachment D**).

The leisure market has the greatest growth opportunity for the Newcastle visitor economy.

The committee discussed the development of the international tourism market and 'one stop shop' for information on Tourism opportunities and best examples.

4.3. Strategic Advocacy

CN's Economic Strategy & Government Relations Manager gave an update on the achievements of the City Taskforce.

Committee agreed to proposal to continue the development of advocacy insights for distribution to State and Federal Government. It was noted that Advanced Manufacturing and Renewable Energy were outstanding proposals from the Taskforce.

The committee discussed the importance of aligning proposals with current and future State and Federal Government policy.

ACTION: B. Hawes to workshop interventions to address concerns with Hunter St economic activity at next Committee meeting.

ACTION: L. Platt to liaise with industry on the EDS.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

No matters raised.

6. MEETING SUMMARY AND ACTIONS

Next Meeting:

01 June 2021

Meeting closed:

The meeting closed at 7.35pm.