



Agenda/Minutes

Transition Working Party

Tuesday 19 February 2020

4pm in the Committee Room

ITEM:

1. Present and Apologies

Working Party: Renzo Benedet, Rich Evans, Glenda Anthes, Robert Swinton

Staff: Andrew Muir, Trinity Newton (minutes)

2. WSROC meeting / desired outcomes / suggested questions:

The Chair provided background information on the WSROC Group and the Western Sydney City Deal Alliance with suggested desired outcomes and questions.

WSROC

- Actively promotes and stands up for Western Sydney interests / needs, presents a united front on key issues and holds partnerships with key organisations
- Membership – Lithgow, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Cumberland and Parramatta
- Each LGA has its unique features and requirements eg. Parramatta City compared to Lithgow City
- There are other LGAs in Western Sydney which are **not** part of WSROC eg. Penrith, Camden, Campbelltown (they are part of the Western Sydney City Deal Alliance)
- Charles Casuscelli has been CEO of WSROC since 2015

Western Sydney Region

Perspective

- 3rd largest economy in Australia
- Population of 2.3M / 150 000 businesses (majority employing less than 20 staff)
- \$35bn in planned infrastructure (eg. Western Sydney Airport (and Aerotropolis)/ hospital upgrades / north-south rail link / major road upgrades / office & commercial developments / over 600 000 new homes anticipated)
- Planned creation of 200 000 jobs in 5 to 7 years
- Predicted population – 2.7M (2030) and 3M (2040)
- Substantial funding from Government to 'make it happen'



Western Sydney City Deal

20 Year Plan

Key domain priorities

- Governance, city planning and regulation
- Infrastructure and investment
- Housing
- Jobs and skills
- Innovation and digital opportunities
- Liveability and sustainability

Key commitments

- Western Sydney & Aerotropolis Authority
- Land use planning well advanced
- \$5M Investment Attraction Fund / Western Sydney Investment Attraction Office
- Feasibility into world-class agribusiness precinct at Western Sydney Aerotropolis
- Investment agreements with Japanese / US companies
- The NUW Alliance (Universities of Newcastle, NSW, Wollongong and Western Sydney to establish world-class higher education and research presence specialising in STEM by 2026)
- Permanent VET facility in the Aerotropolis with a focus on construction, aviation and aeronautical-related engineering
- Digital Action Plan / Smart infrastructure / 5G roll-out
- Western Sydney Centre of Innovation in Plant Sciences
- Western Sydney Health Alliance
- Uniform local government engineering design standards and telecommunications planning
- Infrastructure delivery – North-South Rail Link plus other major road projects

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WSROC Initiatives

- Sustainability and environment (recycling / heat management / energy efficiency)
- Economy and employment (high tech industry clusters / collocating tertiary institutions / school based traineeships and apprenticeships)
- Planning and infrastructure (land use planning / streamlined process)
- Transport (north-south rail link / major road upgrades / light rail / freight links)
- Community and housing (affordable housing / urban renewal / critical support infrastructure)
- Health (world class facilities / R&D centres / pharmaceutical investment)
- Arts and culture (cultural events / Powerhouse Museum / cultural precinct)
- Western Sydney Airport (agribusiness / aviation / advanced manufacturing / skills development)
- Centralised procurement / e-tendering

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WSROC – Possible Questions

- ▶ What are the areas where joint procurement has delivered great outcomes which Lithgow could latch onto
- ▶ Has deployment of smart city technologies been effective and if so, what areas has seen reduced cost to the community
- ▶ What type of agri-businesses are envisaged - any thoughts on floral sales / exports
- ▶ What spurred the development of the arts/culture industry in Western Sydney and what is required to see it continue to grow (what are the implications for Lithgow)
- ▶ Health care is the largest employer in Lithgow – what lessons from Western Sydney we can draw on to further develop our health sector / how can we leverage the world class Western Sydney health precinct
- ▶ There are 150 000 businesses in Western Sydney (majority being small businesses) - how is innovation and start-up ventures promoted in Western Sydney
- ▶ What compelling areas does WSROC see Lithgow as having for business growth and investment
- ▶ Land use planning and streamlining planning approvals are key enablers of the Western Sydney plan – what precisely will this do in terms of approval timing and cost to the community
- ▶ We note plans for STEM education – which is the organisation leading the charge on this
- ▶ Which are the main Western Sydney organisations which Lithgow business needs to get close to
- ▶ Lithgow is relatively geographically distant from the Western Sydney scene – how do we break down the 'distance barrier'

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The Working Party agreed and endorsed the information in the presentation.

3. Understanding the brief and delivery timeline and components

The Chair tabled a Work Brief and delivery timeline as presented below and the Working Party agreed and endorsed the information in the presentation.

Understanding the brief

- Capture in detail the Lithgow LGA SWOT / key players / key communities
- Understand and assess what is underway / proposed for Western Sydney which is material to Lithgow LGA now and in the future (economically, socially, environmentally and community wide)
- Assess how LCC can be a force in WSROC and what opportunities can be jointly driven or leveraged now and in the future
- Which Western Sydney organisations are the drivers / enablers relevant to Lithgow
- Compile a list of opportunities (infrastructure / investment / training / innovative practices / regulatory reform, technology / procurement / tendering) and assess / rank their value to the Lithgow LGA through a specially developed framework funnel
- Agree the strategic scenarios / options and develop business cases for each covering rationale / value add / what is required to make it happen / who champions it / est. cost / timeframe / benefits
- Assess the enabling infrastructure needs / deficiencies relative to the strategic options and scope the solution(s) and associated business case and implementation
- Develop transition plan outline , timeframe and resource implications for implementation

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Timeline

	February	March	April	May	June
Introductory phase	Understand brief Understand what is to be achieved Document review WSROC interface				
Research phase	Deep dive into Lithgow LGA	Deep dive into WS Determine areas of synergy / opportunities / key players Develop assessment framework	Plug the gaps Prepare high level options and strategy for discussion	Develop business cases for each strategic option	
Discussion phase	Agree what Lithgow LGA offers / what it lacks / what it may need	Meet with key WS organisations Meet with key Lithgow organisations (one on one basis)	Series of Lithgow LGA based briefings / workshops / individual sessions	Assess business cases	
Distilling phase	Implications for WS discussions March activities	What we found / gaps / implications for Lithgow / April activities	Assess interest / issues / confirm opportunities Gauge strategic options May activities	Sign off	
Reporting phase	Progress report 1 - Strategic task - Working Party Objectives - Lithgow LGA assessment	Progress report 2 - WS assessment & implications - WSROC & Lithgow integration - Evaluation framework	Progress report 3 - Opportunities - Feedback - Strategic direction - Strategic options	Interim Report	Final report (12 June 2020)

4. Stakeholder engagement (who / when / how)

The working Party agreed upon the following:

- Renzo: Thales, Ferrero, Lithgow City Council, TAFE
- Rich: Energy Australia, Centennial, NBN
- Glenda: Lithgow Valley Plaza Centre Management
- Robert: Lithgow Hospital, Notre Dame, Westfund, Black Gold Cabins, Optus and Telstra

Administration to supply a letter of introduction and issue a media release so the community is aware of the forthcoming contact.

5. General Business

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 5:15pm.

The Next meeting to be held Wednesday 4 March at 4pm in the GM Meeting Room at Lithgow City Council.