MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 22 October 2015

GREATER SYDNEY COMMISSION LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

Planning Minister Rob Stokes today announced that the Greater Sydney Commission is one step closer, after legislation to establish the organisation was introduced in Parliament today.

This milestone follows consultation on the structure and operation of the Commission with councils, industry bodies, and community and environment groups.

Mr Stokes said the introduction of the Greater Sydney Commission Bill recognises the foundational importance of getting planning right in Sydney.

“Getting planning right in Sydney is about ensuring that as Sydney grows, our growth is also matched by progress,” Mr Stokes said.

“Simply saying Sydney is full, or seeking to stifle Sydney’s growth, does not stop people wanting to live in such a great city. We need to ensure that our planning decisions are about improving lives both now and into the future.”

“The Commission will ensure that we have the necessary architecture to ensure Sydney continues to compete on the international stage with the great global cities - each of which has similar metropolitan governance frameworks in place.”

The Greater Sydney Commission will be comprised of 13 appointees, including:
- The Chair;
- Environment Commissioner, Economic Commissioner; Social Commissioner;
- Six District Commissioners, nominated by their councils; and
- Three key government heads: Planning & Environment, Transport and Treasury.

The Commission will be charged with developing district plans, finalising council’s Local Environmental Plans and will act as the decision maker on rezoning proposals currently undertaken by the Minister.

For more information, go to www.gsc.nsw.gov.au