



Dharug Strategic Management Group – Meeting 12

DSMG Working Group Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday 12 February 2026

Time: 9:00am – 11:00am

Location: TfNSW Office, 12 Darcy Street Parramatta / Online

Present:

Tika EQ: Liam Harte, Luke McIlroy-Ranga, Claire Wade.

DSMG: Aunty Julie Jones, Raelene Billedo.

TfNSW: Christo Opperman, Felicity Barry, Warren Steadman, Jody Gould, Noni Ross, Angela Greenless, Danny Kim.

Blacktown City Council: Michael Maxwell

Gamuda & DTI JV: Niall Fry, Nicole Zhou, Richard Buck.

Apologies:

TfNSW: Mona Saini, Lyndall Thornhill, Raquel Bleza

DSMG: Brendan Thomas

Gamuda & DTI JV: Andy Thompson, David Mudd

1. Welcome / Acknowledgement

2. Governance - Action Items

Site Specific Cultural Safety Induction and Training Protocols for all Contractors

DSMG confirmed that the Cultural Safety Induction content is nearly complete, with anticipated completion the following week. TfNSW offered support if required. It was reiterated that the induction remains Dharug-led and mandatory for all contractors and that it is embedded within governance and contractor mobilisation processes.

Series of TfNSW on Country Community Consultations Delivered Face to Face

The upcoming workshop was confirmed for 15 February. Council indicated it was comfortable with early discussion of parking and access iterations, despite the land being council-owned. It was agreed that proposals would be clearly presented as draft concepts rather than final designs. Careful framing will be required to avoid confusion, particularly regarding archaeological findings, and it was agreed that messaging during community sessions will remain high-level and project focused. A standalone archaeology-focused session may be scheduled at a later stage under the PACHCI process.





Letter of Commitment

TfNSW confirmed that DSMG's feedback on the Letter of Commitment has been received and that the proposed amendments are acceptable and will be incorporated. The updated version will be signed by the TfNSW Director, with no further Board review required prior to finalisation.

Develop “Principles and Ways of Working” for DSMG Review and EndorsementThe document has been received and is currently under internal review within Transport. It was acknowledged as forming part of the governance framework underpinning cultural authority, ICIP protection and transparency, and is linked to the broader partnership model between DSMG and TfNSW.

Establish Monthly Progress Summary to DSMG

The monthly report has commenced, with the most recent version circulated by Nicole. Members were invited to provide feedback regarding content depth or format. The report will include updates on traffic staging, construction progress, and environmental and cultural works.

Updated Traffic Studies and Permanent Access Layout

Council indicated support for discussion of the parking option. It is anticipated that a Development Application (DA) may be required due to heritage considerations and proximity to the creek, and faster approval pathways, such as RAP versus integrated development, are being considered. Images have already been provided to Council for briefing Councillors.

Updated Maps of Construction Zones and Access Restriction

The geotechnical investigation plan, including borehole locations, will be shared. Utility relocation and roadworks design packages are expected between February and March, with full design packages to be uploaded to the project portal. TfNSW will highlight key impacts near the BNI to avoid DSMG having to review entire technical documentation sets.

Review Feasibility of Underground Utility Placement

This item remains ongoing, with an update expected in March. Utility relocation works are scheduled to commence shortly behind the installed barriers.

Update Regarding Colebee Warehouse Site Management and Compliance

The environmental officer is following up on an updated report from Callahey. Delays have occurred due to TfNSW internal restructuring; however, the officer is actively pursuing compliance documentation.



Provide Council with Images to Support Colebee Crescent Parking Option

Images have already been provided to Council, and Council is preparing a briefing for Councillors. A DA pathway is currently under consideration, and this item is to be closed from the action register as the images have been supplied.

3D Imaging / VR to Support Community Workshops (29/01 & 15/02)

The VR model was prepared based on an earlier reference design; however, subsequent refinements by Gamuda mean the VR is no longer fully accurate. A decision was made not to use the VR for the broader community session to avoid confusion. Updated static concept images will be used instead, and the VR will be deployed later once aligned with the final design.

Site Security Options

Discussion is ongoing regarding solar-powered CCTV. The proposed model involves Transport purchasing the hardware, with DSMG managing the subscription. Installation logistics were discussed, and DSMG indicated comfort with the proposal in principle. Security patrols are continuing, with the aim of achieving independent power supply and remote monitoring capability.

Ministerial Visit

A Ministerial visit has been proposed for the 23rd. Arrangements are being coordinated through the TfNSW Media Team and the Minister's Office. The run sheet and logistics are still being finalised, with a commitment to return to DSMG once arrangements are confirmed to avoid unnecessary back-and-forth.

3. Project Update

TfNSW provided an update on the Richmond Road Widening project between the M7 and Townson Road, confirming it will proceed via a Section 60 approval pathway under the Heritage Act to ensure transparency and third-party oversight. The Archaeological Methodology & Research Design (AMRD) outlines staged testing in areas identified as having potential burials, particularly near Bells Creek and the north-eastern corner of the BNI site. Archaeological testing is limited to identifying the presence or absence of graves, with no proposed disturbance of human remains at this stage, while Aboriginal salvage is progressing separately under the AHIP pathway. DSMG emphasised the need for culturally appropriate protocols, advance communication prior to any ground disturbance, and strict adherence to Dharug-led cultural governance.

4. General Items for Discussion

Seed Collection at the BNI Site

Seed collection opportunities at the BNI site were discussed as part of supporting regeneration initiatives and informing future landscape planning and planting works. DSMG emphasised that Dharug cultural knowledge must guide species selection and regeneration strategies.





Urban Design Landscaping Project Information Session

TfNSW confirmed that an information session will be scheduled to present early landscape concepts and outline the integration of Connecting with Country principles within the project design. DSMG requested that cultural landscape values be clearly demonstrated as embedded within design thinking rather than treated as a separate overlay.

Pre-lodgement Meeting with Heritage NSW – 12 March 2026

TfNSW confirmed the upcoming pre-lodgement meeting with Heritage NSW to discuss the AMRD and Section 60 approval pathway. DSMG requested appropriate representation or formal feedback mechanisms to ensure Dharug positions are accurately reflected in discussions with Heritage NSW.

5. Questions / Comments / Any Other Business

Project Portal Reminder

TIKA EQ reminded members that updated documents, timelines and meeting materials are available via the project portal and encouraged members to review documentation ahead of upcoming milestone meetings. DSMG reiterated that the BNI must be understood as part of a broader Dharug cultural landscape rather than as isolated project parcels, and emphasised that archaeological and design processes must reflect this holistic, landscape-based understanding.

6. Close Meeting

Aunty Julie thanked attendees for their ongoing commitment to respectful and collaborative work on Dharug Nura, acknowledging efforts to strengthen cultural governance and protect the Blacktown Native Institution as a living cultural landscape. She expressed appreciation for the transparency shown in addressing complex heritage matters and encouraged continued work grounded in trust, cultural respect and shared responsibility for Country. The meeting was formally closed with thanks to all participants.

Next Meeting:

Date: Thursday, 26 February 2026

Time: 9:00am – 11:00am

Location: TfNSW Parramatta Office, 4 Parramatta Square, Parramatta.

