

## RRM7 Upgrade, Blacktown Native Institution – Meeting 18/2026

Dharug Strategic Management Group Working Group Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details	
<b>Date</b>	Thursday, 7 May 2026
<b>Time</b>	9:30am –11:30am
<b>Location</b>	RRM7 South Street Site – 136 South Street, Marsden Park NSW 2765 (on-site and online)
Present	
<b>Tika EQ</b>	Liam Harte, Claire Wade, Luke McIlroy-Ranga
<b>DSMG</b>	Aunty Julie Jones, Raelene Billedo
<b>TfNSW</b>	Christo Opperman, Warren Steadman, Noni Ross, Jody Gould, Angela Greenlees (Stantec), Felicity Barry, Samirkumar Patel
<b>Blacktown City Council</b>	Michael Maxwell
<b>Gamuda &amp; DTI JV</b>	Niall Fry, David Mudd, Nicole Zhou.
Apologies	
<b>TfNSW</b>	Luke Messer, Raquel Bleza, Jody Gould
<b>DSMG</b>	<i>no apologies</i>
<b>Blacktown City Council</b>	<i>no apologies</i>
<b>Gamuda &amp; DTI JV</b>	Richard Buck



## 1.0 Standing Items

### Welcome / Acknowledgement of Country

## 2.0 Governance

### Action Items from Previous Meeting

The following updates were provided on open action items from the previous meeting, aligned to the agenda for Meeting 18/2026.

#### **Action Item 1 – Cultural Site-Specific Safety Induction and Training (DSMG-WG / Gamuda DTI JV)**

The ICIP agreement has been updated and the Gamuda DTI JV has incorporated its comments. The revised document is now with DSMG for review and approval. Once DSMG has confirmed it is satisfied with the content, the parties will move forward. This item remains open pending DSMG confirmation.

#### **Action Item 2 – BNI Site 3D Imaging and Virtual Reality (TfNSW)**

No substantive update was provided at this meeting. An update is scheduled for June 2026 in line with the action register. The virtual reality component remains in development, with deployment subject to alignment with the final design and DSMG advice. This item is ongoing.

#### **Action Item 3 – Reuse of Removed Trees (Gamuda DTI JV)**

No substantive update was provided at this meeting. A comprehensive update is scheduled for early June 2026. The Gamuda DTI JV is investigating opportunities for reuse of removed native trees, including potential habitats, relocation and chipping options. This item remains open.

#### **Action Item 4 – DSMG Access to Artefacts (TfNSW)**

DSMG advised that, following a Board meeting held the previous evening, the Board has confirmed it is agreeable to the repatriation of artefacts recovered from the surrounding area and from the other side of the road to the BNI site. DSMG noted that road boundaries were never formally established in that area, and that artefacts recovered in those locations are appropriately understood as belonging to Country on the BNI side. DSMG advised that the Board retreat in September 2026 presents a meaningful opportunity to conduct a repatriation at that time, returning artefacts as close as possible to their original location. A new action was identified to update the Unexpected Finds Protocol to document this approach and ensure it applies to any future contractor or project team operating in the area. An update is due by June 2026. This item remains open.

#### **Action Item 5 – Artist Brief (TfNSW / Tika EQ)**



Tika EQ advised that of the 14 artists identified; 12 have been contacted with project information. Of those, four have confirmed interest in participating, and one artist has completed Phase 1 within the current timeframe. EOIs were sent to artists on 4 May 2026, with a closing date of 8 May 2026. Discussion was held regarding the importance of achieving fresh artistic perspectives across the site and avoiding repetition or duplication of artistic approaches across different locations. A follow-up conversation between Tika EQ and working group members was agreed to refine the artist shortlist. This item is ongoing.

### **Action Item 6 – Aboriginal Participation Plan Update (Gamuda DTI JV)**

An update on the Aboriginal Participation Plan is due at the end of May 2026. Gamuda DTI JV confirmed that a snapshot update will be provided at the next meeting (21 May 2026), with a full update to follow by 28 May 2026 as per the action register. This item remains open.

### **Action Item 7 – Site Office Room Naming Opportunities**

A shortlist of room naming options has been identified and is considered in good shape. This action item is considered closed.

### **New Action – Unexpected Finds Protocol Update (TfNSW / Gamuda DTI JV)**

As a result of discussion under Action Item 4, a new action was identified to update the Unexpected Finds Protocol to document the agreed approach to artefact repatriation and to ensure proper guidance is in place for any future contractor or project team that identifies artefacts in the area. An update is due by June 2026.

## **3.0 Project Update**

### **3.1 Current Project Update**

The Gamuda DTI JV presented the current project update for the RRM7 upgrade works. Construction activities are focused on Portion 1, between the site and Thompson Road. The update covered active works across multiple zones.

#### **Zone 4B – Northern End**

Vegetation clearing is underway at the northern end of the site as part of site preparation for subsequent construction phases.

#### **Zone 3 – Median Area**

Utility and servicing investigations have been completed, including potholing. Pavement installation and road base work is currently progressing on schedule.

#### **Zone 4A – Holland's Area**

Facing off works for this section have been completed. Storm water installation and connection work is ongoing.

#### **Zones 1 and 2 – Median Sections**



Box out excavation and topsoil screening have been completed. Pavement and road base installation is currently underway across several sections. Concrete works are planned for the following month, following completion of road base installation.

## **Traffic Update**

No changes to the traffic update were reported. Conditions remain consistent with the previous month.

## **3.2 Archaeology Update**

TfNSW confirmed there is no substantive archaeology update to report at this meeting. Archaeological reporting is in progress, and site access for archaeological purposes is being managed through the agreed protocols. No update was provided at this stage. This item will be carried forward to the next meeting.

## **4.0 General Items for Discussion**

### **4.1 DSMG Site Investigation Works**

TfNSW presented the heritage approval pathways available for geotechnical investigation works required to progress design deliverables for infrastructure on the BNI site. Two pathways were outlined for the working group's consideration.

The first is a standard heritage exemption, which applies to all heritage sites and requires DSMG consent and compliance with specific conditions. While this pathway is available, TfNSW noted that it may not yield sufficient geotechnical information for the design of major structures such as bridge elements, and that clear delineation of site boundaries would be required.

The second pathway is the Section 60 process, which would be specifically applicable to investigation and inspection works and would provide a more comprehensive basis for structural design.

TfNSW confirmed that the final determination of which pathway to pursue rests with Heritage NSW or, in some circumstances, Transport NSW through internal processes. The decision ultimately lies with DSMG and the relevant heritage bodies. TfNSW noted it would spend further time assessing whether the standard exemption pathway is viable before moving forward.

TfNSW also noted the existence of some archaeological considerations in the Muru Reserve, adjacent to the BNI site and outside the BNI boundary, which will be discussed further with DSMG separately.

### **4.2 Proposed Approvals Process**

TfNSW outlined the proposed design development and approvals workflow for works within the BNI. The Gamuda DTI JV will develop an initial concept design and bring it back to the Working Group for review. A total review period of approximately three weeks is proposed from the date of submission, encompassing TfNSW, DSMG and Blacktown City Council. Materials will be distributed to all parties simultaneously for parallel review; the process does not require a formal meeting.

Following the review period, Gamuda DTI JV will incorporate all comments and produce a final design. Provided all comments have been satisfactorily addressed, the final design will progress through the approval's pathway. The final package will include all environmental documents, any required ADIP



modification, the Aboriginal Heritage Impact Assessment, and the Heritage NSW Section 60 application.

TfNSW and the Gamuda DTI JV noted that the technical and engineering aspects of the design, including structural elements such as the bridge, are largely fixed. The primary area available for input and decision-making by DSMG and Council is urban design - specifically the materials palette and colour palette. TfNSW proposed that a dedicated meeting be arranged to establish the palette as a first step, given that it will inform all subsequent design choices. TfNSW indicated this could be achievable within three to four weeks.

DSMG confirmed agreement with the approach, noting the importance of ensuring the design limits damage to Country as much as possible and that community satisfaction with the aesthetic outcome is essential. Blacktown City Council indicated it is supportive in principle and requested to be kept closely informed throughout the palette development process. Both DSMG and Council confirmed they would value early engagement to understand what they are approving before formal materials are submitted.

DSMG and Council expressed a shared preference for earth-toned, natural colours that blend with the surrounding environment. The design philosophy is for infrastructure to sit quietly within the landscape rather than draw attention to itself.

## 5.0 Questions / Comments / Any Other Business

### 5.1 Community Engagement Event – August 2026

Tika EQ raised the matter of a community engagement event, initially discussed for June or July 2026. The Working Group noted that June is an extremely busy period and that July school holidays would affect community availability. The Working Group agreed to target August 2026.

The intended format is a weekend session, consistent with previous successful community events. The session will include a DSMG preview briefing ahead of the broader public presentation, and the virtual reality component is expected to be available at that time, subject to alignment with the final design. Tika EQ agreed to return to the Working Group with a shortlist of potential Sunday dates in August for confirmation.

### 5.2 Contractor Site Access – Sydney Water Incident

A concern was raised by DSMG regarding a recent incident in which Sydney Water contractors entered a culturally sensitive area of the site - including the casuarina grove in the Williams area - without an appropriate cultural awareness briefing. The contractors were operating a pump and were not aware of the cultural significance of the area.

DSMG noted this as an unacceptable outcome, particularly given that Sydney Water has previously received briefings on the cultural significance of the project area. It was agreed that TfNSW and the project team should communicate clearly to Sydney Water and all third-party contractors that a full cultural awareness briefing is required before any site access, particularly in areas of known cultural sensitivity.

### 5.3 Surveyor Access to Site



It was noted that surveyors need to access the site to confirm the location of power infrastructure and establish boundary lines. It was agreed that appropriate cultural briefing and access protocols must be in place before surveyor access is granted. Coordination of this access will be managed by Gamuda DTI JV.

## 6.0 Close of Meeting

Tika EQ closed the meeting, thanking all attendees for their patience with the on-site technology setup and for their continued participation and partnership in the Working Group. The next meeting was confirmed as Thursday, 21 May 2026, with both on-site and online attendance options available.

### Next Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, 21 May 2026

**Time:** 9:30am – 11:30am

**Location:** RRM7 South Street Site – 136 South Street, Marsden Park NSW 2765 (on-site and online)

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