

RRM7 Upgrade, Blacktown Native Institution – Meeting 22/2026

Dharug Strategic Management Group Working Group Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details	
Date	Thursday, 2 July 2026
Time	9:30am – 11:30am
Location	RRM7 South Street Site – 136 South Street, Marsden Park NSW 2065 (on-site and online)
Present	
Tika EQ	Liam Harte, Luke McIlroy-Ranga, Claire Wade
DSMG	Aunty Julie Jones
TfNSW	Christo Opperman, Noni Ross, Angela Greenlees, Luke Messer Mona Saini, Felicity Barry
Blacktown City Council	Piper Sealey
Gamuda & DTI JV	Niall Fry, Richard Buck, David Mudd, Husain Nilar, Nicole Zhou,
Apologies	
TfNSW	Raquel Bleza, Jody Gould
DSMG	Raelene Billedo
Blacktown City Council	Michael Maxwell
Gamuda & DTI JV	No Apologies

1.0 Standing Items

1.1 Welcome / Acknowledgement of Country

Tika EQ opened the meeting with a Welcome to Country, acknowledging the group was meeting on Dharug Country and welcoming participants joining from other locations.

1.2 Housekeeping

2.0 Governance

Action Items from Previous Meeting

The following updates were provided on open action items.

Action Item 1: BNI Site 3D Imaging / VR – Owner: TfNSW

A session was held with the VR specialist team the previous Wednesday. The 3D model has been developed to a high standard, the proposed landscape has been rendered including

surrounding environment. The model allows the viewer to spin around the site and includes functionality to set the time of day, time of year, and seasonal conditions, allowing the shadow of the bridge and other features to be visualised. The technology is described as almost ready to share with DSMG. The plan is to have this available for the 16 August community event.

DSMG is to preview the VR experience prior to the August event. A Friday session consistent with the existing in-person Friday catchup schedule was identified as the likely format. Friday 31 July was noted as a possible date, subject to any conflicts with design panel commitments. Preview can be conducted via screen display rather than requiring the full VR headset and specialist equipment.

Action Item 2: Tree Removal and Reuse – Owner: Gamuda DTI JV / TfNSW

Update due at the next meeting (16 July 2026).

Action Item 3: Aboriginal Participation Plan – Owner: Gamuda DTI JV

Quarterly reporting cycle continues. Next update due end of August. It was noted that Gamuda DTI JV had attended meet the supplier events recently with Indigenous Business and Yarpa.

Action Item 4: Unexpected Finds Repatriation – Owner: TfNSW

Discussion on repatriation location planning progressed in detail. DSMG shared current thinking on preferred locations:

- Primary preference: along the edge of the berm, as that corner of the site is intended to be a memorial corner. This would allow a dedicated area to extend along the berm, incorporating plantings and marked stones. The proximity to the proposed shallow water feature (a cultural water design element planned for the area) was seen as significant.
- Secondary preference: an area lower on the site, away from the birthing space and away from colonial history areas of the site.

Key design and process considerations raised:

- Circular design for placements, layered with paper, material placed correctly, smoked, and then filled.
- Salvaged silcrete material from the site - described as a mixed sandstone-like raw material with different grain layers - discussed as a potential aesthetic element. Gamuda to prepare a fact sheet with photos of silcrete material to assist workers and community in identifying it on site.
- Each placement to be marked and recorded. A small marker (e.g. stepping stone or similar) noted as an appropriate acknowledgement that would not draw undue attention.
- Children from community to potentially be involved in designing the markers, creating a connection to family.

Process and approvals discussed:

- The repatriation area is being considered as part of the current S60 application. Including multiple potential locations within the application would provide flexibility without requiring a new HIA each time a placement is made.
- Updates to the site card to record each new placement are sufficient rather than a new approval process each time.

TfNSW is awaiting a response from the relevant officer (away in August) to confirm the supporting information required. Other site boundaries also need to be updated to capture the repatriation locations.

Action Item 5: BNI Urban Design – Owner: TfNSW

Update deferred to next meeting.

Action Item 6: Community Engagement Event August – Owner: TfNSW

Muru Mittigar is confirmed for the event. Conversations are progressing on the event program, including VR experience and artefact access for the community.

TfNSW staff member to arrange for artefacts to be set aside the week before the event, with DSMG taking responsibility for their care during the event and ensuring they are returned to temporary storage until final transfer.

Draft agenda for the August community day to be circulated ahead of the next meeting (16 July 2026).

3.0 Project Update

3.1 Current Project Update

Update provided by Gamuda DTI JV. The following progress was reported:

- Portion 1: Ongoing works including pavement and median concrete works in Zone 3. Zone 4b / 4a holding square works progressing, with temporary pavement for driveways being laid to avoid disruption to daytime traffic and access to the business complex.
- Portion 2: Pavement works and service crossings ongoing. Establishment of the 717 property yard area for materials is in progress. Demolition of two buildings is targeted for end of August, after which open U-drain works in that corner will commence. Utility relocations along the verge are a significant focus for the next six months through to end of year.

A traffic switch is planned on the road in Portion 2 once pavement works advance, moving traffic closer to the 717 property side and opening up new work front zones. Timing to be confirmed. Pedestrian footpath near the service station will be temporarily redirected as median works advance in that area - noted as the biggest community impact coming up. No change to borehole and pot-holing numbers due to ongoing access constraints in Portion 2 areas.

BNI site access: DSMG noted they are planning around reduced access from approximately December onwards and are prioritising works that need to occur before end of year. Confirmed that site access must be maintained at all times in a form equivalent to current access; if the primary entry cannot be used, an alternative must be provided and must accommodate construction vehicle access.

Kangaroo Welfare – Site Fauna Management: DSMG raised concerns about the welfare of kangaroos on and around the site, noting this is a significant issue for the community. Three mobs have been identified; DSMG has been monitoring one mob consistently for around six

months and noted two more whose locations are less certain. There is concern about what happens to these animals once major construction works begin in their living areas.

Gamuda DTI JV advised that temporary fencing with shade cloth selected to be visually less intrusive can be used to direct kangaroos toward the creek corridor and under the bridge, keeping them off the road. This was described as a straightforward control measure. DSMG noted the broader community sensitivity around kangaroos in the area, including a separate issue at a nearby university site where development is proposed.

3.2 Artwork Program Update / Knowledge Holder Workshop

Discussion was held on the upcoming Knowledge Holder Workshop. DSMG noted community capacity constraints, with members across multiple projects and limited time available. The preference expressed was for the DSMG Board to serve as the community representative body, potentially supplemented by one additional person per relevant family group, keeping the group tight.

Names discussed for the workshop group: the Board, with either Nicole Winters or only Raelene Billedo (one, not both), and potentially one other. Steve was discussed but a perceived conflict of interest was noted within the community. The importance of ensuring artists are not under pressure was emphasised.

TfNSW to circulate availability across the next two weeks and aim to schedule the workshop as soon as possible, potentially the following week even if out of hours.

3.3 Archaeology Update

The archaeology situation is described as settled and progressing well. No significant concerns raised.

4.0 General Items for Discussion

4.1 Ecology Update

The ecological survey is progressing from the 21st of the area, working upwards. The survey currently underway is an initial assessment, not a full fauna inspection, aimed at determining the extent of the protected plant community (the Coastal Plains Peat Swamp system, described as the “common plane”). Trees are being tagged and GPS referenced so the extent can be mapped and visualised.

A full hearing inspection (tree survey with species counts, hollows, etc.) will follow later in the month. The report is due approximately end of July. Understanding the Protected Community of Trees (PCTs) will inform where construction re-entry is required once final designs are confirmed.

4.2 Design Package Reviews / HIA

Session 2 of the HIA review: The previous session progressed to approximately halfway, with a request to make changes to the document before reconvening. Latest advice (as of meeting morning) was that the document is not yet ready. A target of Friday the following week (17 July) was noted as a potential meeting date for Session 2, subject to timing.

Response to Planting Pallet comments: An email was sent to the consultant requesting written responses to the comments for discussion. The consultant (Marion) is going on leave

from this afternoon for a couple of weeks. A suggestion was made to wait until she returns and then do a combined presentation of the updated design alongside the heritage sessions that have been running, to bring all threads together at once. DSMG raised the idea of presenting the design update to the broader DSMG Board in an evening session (monthly out-of-hours format) once the material is ready.

4.3 August Community Day

Discussion on the August community day event agenda was deferred to the next meeting. TfNSW to circulate a draft event agenda internally and to DSMG ahead of the 16 July meeting. Auntie Julie offered to facilitate outreach to Elders and community members for the event and requested a list of email contacts from TfNSW / Tika EQ. A list of people considered likely to engage productively will be compiled and provided within a couple of days.

DSMG noted the importance of keeping the event invitation list focused - the community is stretched across many projects and there is a need to ensure those attending are genuinely invested in outcomes, not simply attending to be seen.

5.0 Questions / Comments / Any Other Business

5.1 Open Forum

DDA-Compliant Path Width – Blacktown City Council

Piper Sealey (Blacktown City Council) raised a carry-over action from the previous meeting regarding path widths. It was confirmed that Transport standards are wider than the minimum DDA requirement and meet the 1.5m (or 1.8m) minimum. Council confirmed this is acceptable.

Broader Richmond Road Upgrade – Scope of DSMG Engagement

TfNSW raised whether more information on other Richmond Road upgrade projects (beyond the current scope) should be shared with DSMG, given work planning is progressing on those.

DSMG expressed a clear preference to keep the broader upgrade projects entirely separate from the current working group. It was noted that the consultancy space has become crowded with people who lack genuine knowledge, and DSMG wants to use its engagement to work through that. A suggestion was made for a small core group, potentially Raelene Billedo, Auntie Julie Jones, and one or two others with cross-project knowledge, to be the conduit for information across the broader footprint.

6.0 Close of Meeting

The meeting was closed by Tika EQ. The next meeting details were confirmed.

Next Meeting	
Date	Thursday, 16 July 2026