

RRM7 Upgrade, Blacktown Native Institution – Meeting 20/2026

Dharug Strategic Management Group Working Group Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details	
Date	Thursday 13 August 2026
Time	Morning meeting – exact time not captured in transcript
Location	RRM7 Site Office: 136 South Street, Marsden Park / Online
Present	
Tika EQ	Liam Harte, Luke McIlory-Ranga, Claire Wade.
DSMG	Aunty Julie Jones, Raelene Billedo.
TfNSW	Angela Hooper, Christo Opperman, Felicity Barry, Noni Ross, Jody Gould, Erika Jimenez, Jo Damcevski, Mona Saini, Luke Messer.
Blacktown City Council	Michael Maxwell, Piper Sealy
Gamuda & DTI JV	Niall Fry, Richard Buck, Nicolas Maurer, Hussian Nilar, Nicole Zhou

1.0 Standing Items

Welcome / Acknowledgement of Country

2.0 Governance

Action Items from Previous Meeting

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

The project team demonstrated the developing 3D/VR model of the Richmond Road and BNI interface. The model allows different viewpoints and seasonal shadow testing, and currently includes bridge structures, barriers and an indicative berm that will be refined as the design progresses.

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

No separate tree reuse update was provided. Tree reuse, revegetation, and planting will be addressed at the Sunday community engagement session.

Action Item 3: Aboriginal Participation Plan Update – Owner: GDTI JV

The Aboriginal Participation Plan was not reviewed in detail. An update will be included in the Sunday workshop to support broader discussion of project participation opportunities.

Action Item 4: Unexpected Finds Repatriation – Owner: TfNSW

TfNSW presented a draft repatriation protocol for returning Aboriginal artefact collections to dedicated locations at the BNI. Heritage NSW advice was that a new AHIP would not be required for each collection if an agreed process is established, with each placement recorded through AHIMS/site-card updates and linked to its project and archaeological records.

DSMG emphasised that the protocol should remain flexible, so the Board can determine how artefacts are prepared, returned, and identified. The group supported mapping and GPS recordings of each location, with optional culturally appropriate markers or planting. TfNSW will circulate the draft protocol, supporting forms, and a draft location map through the Tika EQ portal for DSMG review.

Action Item 5: BNI Urban Workshop Design – Owner: TfNSW

The project team previewed BNI urban design material for the Sunday workshop, including the flyover moving a further 1.2 meters from the BNI boundary, reduced fencing, revised planting, more naturalised drainage treatments, flood measures and seasonal shadow studies.

Permanent BNI access was also reviewed, including the Colbee Crescent driveway, parking, pedestrian and maintenance access, bridges, berm and landscaping. DSMG stressed the need to preserve sufficient space for a future cultural centre. A design session with DSMG and Blacktown City Council is scheduled for 28 August to confirm key spatial requirements.

Action Item 6: Community Engagement Event August – Owner: Tika EQ / TfNSW

The Working Group reviewed the Sunday community workshop program, which will cover construction, design, BNI access, landscaping, flood and shadow information, archaeology, recovered artefacts, VR and the Aboriginal Participation Plan. Time will also be allowed for discussion of the proposed repatriation approach where possible.

3.0 Project Update

3.1 Current Project Update

GDTI JV advised that works are continuing across the Richmond Road corridor, including intersection, median, drainage and temporary access works. A temporary driveway is nearing completion, with traffic expected to switch to the new alignment from Monday night without material impact to business access.

Works have also commenced in the southern project area, with access maintained near the creek and footpath. Building demolition is planned for 28 August and preparations for future traffic switches are continuing. Completion of Portion 1 works by Christmas remains a key milestone to enable three lanes in each direction.

3.2 Artwork Program

The group discussed using the VR model to inform the artwork program by showing the artist which retaining-wall areas are most visible from key road approaches. Screenshots from relevant viewpoints will be prepared so artwork can respond to actual sightlines, scale and viewing time.

The wall treatment is currently proposed as patterned concrete panels rather than a mural. Detailed artwork remains in development, with simple and legible design elements considered most effective for areas primarily viewed from moving vehicles.

3.3 Archaeology Update

Artefacts recovered through project investigations will be collected for display at the Sunday workshop and returned to the archaeological team early the following week. The workshop will also provide a concise summary of the burial-testing methodology and findings.

The group discussed future engagement with Registered Aboriginal Parties on repatriation and project findings. A combined Aboriginal Focus Group may be used where practical for overlapping RAP participation, while keeping the Richmond Road and neighbouring project matters clearly separated.

4.0 General Items for Discussion

4.1 Ecology / Landscape Update

The proposed landscape strategy uses species consistent with the Cumberland Plain and seeks to improve habitat near Bells Creek while maintaining passive surveillance and safety. Lower native planting is proposed along parts of the maintenance access, with detailed tree reuse and revegetation discussion deferred to the Sunday workshop.

4.2 Design Package Reviews / Heritage Impact Assessment

The key packages requiring DSMG review are the finalised landscaping material and Heritage Impact Assessment. TfNSW will coordinate circulation through Tika EQ with clear review requirements and timeframes. Early agreement at the 28 August design session is expected to reduce later redesign and review periods.

4.3 RAP / Aboriginal Focus Group Informing of S60 / BNI Works

The group discussed how RAPs should be informed of excavation outcomes, repatriation and relevant BNI works. A combined Aboriginal Focus Group was suggested where practical, while maintaining clear separation between project and approval pathways. The level of agreement required for repatriation will continue to be clarified.

4.4 BNI Access

TfNSW confirmed that access to the BNI will be maintained throughout construction, although temporary routes may change with staging. The permanent concept includes the Colbee Crescent driveway, parking, pedestrian access and a maintenance/delivery crossing. DSMG reiterated that the final arrangement must protect opportunities for a future cultural centre.

5.0 Questions / Comments / Any Other Business

5.1 Virtual Reality Demonstration and Community Workshop Readiness

Nick demonstrated the VR model from several viewpoints, including the shared path, BNI, Rooty Hill Road and Bells Creek approaches. Members considered it useful for understanding bridge scale, the indicative berm, shadowing and artwork visibility. VR headsets and shared-screen viewing will be available at the Sunday workshop.

No further substantive matters were raised. The Sunday workshop will progress the outstanding community-facing design, archaeology and participation discussions.

6.0 Close of Meeting

The meeting was closed by Tika EQ. The next design coordination meeting is scheduled for Friday 28 August 2026, with the Sunday community workshop occurring beforehand.

Next Meeting	
Date	Friday 28 August 2026
Time	10:00 – 12:00pm
Location	RRM7 Site Office: 136 South Street, Marsden Park / Online