

RRM7 Upgrade, Blacktown Native Institution – Meeting 24/2026

Dharug Strategic Management Group Working Group Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details	
Date	Thursday, 30 July 2026
Time	9:30am – 11:30am
Location	RRM7 South Street Site – 136 South Street, Marsden Park NSW 2765 (on-site and online)
Present	
Tika EQ	Liam Harte, Luke McIlroy-Ranga, Claire Wade
DSMG	Aunty Julie Jones, Raelen Billedo
TfNSW	Angela Hooper, Noni Ross, Samirkumar Patel, Christo Opperman, Felicity Barry, Moani Saini
Blacktown City Council	Piper Sealy
Gamuda & DTI JV	Niall Fry, Richard Buck, Husain Nilar, Nicolle Zhou, Jess, Miriam
Apologies	
TfNSW	Jo Damcevski, Raquel Bleza, Jody Gould, Felicity Barry,
DSMG	Raelene Billedo
Blacktown City Council	Michael Maxwell
Gamuda & DTI JV	David Mudd

1.0 Standing Items

1.1. Welcome / Acknowledgement of Country

Liam opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country, noting the significance of the season. Introductions were made around the room and online, including a welcome to Jess, who has joined the Rich and Road project team in the Aboriginal Participation and Workforce Development role, and Sam, who has joined the environment and sustainability team while David Mudd is on leave.

2.0 Governance

2.1. Action Items from Previous Meeting

Action Item 1: Tree Removal and Reuse - Owner: Gamuda DTI JV / TfNSW

no update required this cycle.

Action Item 2: Aboriginal Participation Plan update: GDTI-JV

no update, due next month.

Action Item 3: Unexpected Finds Repatriation – Owner: TfNSW

Felicity to follow up separately; a new team member is starting shortly to assist with Road priority projects.

Action Item 4: BNI Urban Workshop Design – Owner: TfNSW

no update required this cycle.

Action Item 5: Community Engagement Event August – Owner: Tika EQ / TfNSW

Update given in general items.

Action Item 5: Kangaroo Management / Temporary Fencing – Owner: GDTI-JV

no update required this cycle.

3.0 Project Update

3.1. Current project update (Gamuda DTI JV)

Niall provided an update across both project portions. In Portion 1, LMC placement is largely complete, with stormwater drainage connecting to existing services and channel construction beginning around September. A major milestone of three lanes opens by year end remains the focus, with utility cutovers (Endeavour Energy, NBN, TPG, Telstra) as the current priority. Slip lane construction is expected before the end of August.

In Portion 2, the compound and material handling zone is established, with non-destructive digging underway ahead of test pit works in Area 13 to inform design. Drill rigs will begin authority testing next week at discrete locations, with fencing to be installed around each site for visibility. Utility relocations, verge pavement works and drainage (including a culvert) will proceed over the coming three months, with house and shed demolition the first stage. The first traffic switch for the southern end of the project is anticipated soon.

In response to a question about artefact scatter monitoring during boring works, Niall confirmed the crew is briefed to identify changes in material type and to follow unexpected finds protocols, consistent with the approach used during archaeological test pitting. Aunty Julie raised concerns regarding a family of foxes observed along Bells Creek and asked that any pest management approach be handled sensitively given cultural significance; this was acknowledged by the project team.

3.2. Updated Landscape Design Workshop Miriam (Stantec)

- Miriam presented the updated planting palette, now based on 85% design documentation, reflecting feedback previously provided by DSMG and subsequent workshopping with TfNSW. Design is guided by CPTED principles (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) to balance safety, sightlines and passive surveillance across three zones: roadside management (low, non-obstructive planting due to sightline and utility constraints), under-bridge (height-restricted, low-maintenance species), and the special planting mound connecting to the BNI site (colourful, culturally significant species).

- Key points raised and discussed:
- Concerns about shading from the berm and potential future tree growth may require future adjustment of species selection; Stantec confirmed the layout and methodology would not change, only species substitution if shading increases.
- Warrigal Greens, mint and other bush tucker species cannot be planted in the road corridor due to contamination risk from road run-off, but can be included within the BNI site boundary. 3.2.3 Cultural and flowering species (kangaroo paw, flannel flower, hardenbergia, dianella) have been incorporated into the special planting area to reflect community input.
- Casuarinas have been removed from the palette as they are expected to naturally regenerate from the existing seed bank along the creek line; Aunty Julie noted the cultural significance of the trees and requested continued attention to their return, given the storyline associated with the site.
- Kangaroo-attracting grass species (Themeda, Chloris) have been consolidated around the Bells Creek entrance only, to manage safety risk.
- Fencing for fauna passage has increased to four crossings; shrub buffers either side will be retained for maintenance access.
- Angela to receive a written summary of DSMG's landscape requirements to support finalisation of design intent, given the number of matters still to be locked down.
- Broader discussion took place regarding cultural interpretation and storytelling opportunities along the corridor, including a potential co-management conversation with National Parks regarding land further along the creek, and the possibility of QR-code linked interpretation points connecting to DSMG-held content. No formal action was set; noted as an area for future consideration.

4.0 General Items for Discussion

4.1. Design Package Reviews

No substantive design changes have occurred since the previous package; updates are largely limited to additional detail such as reinforcement schedules. Richie is reviewing artwork-related commentary from the recent workshop session and will circulate comments once complete; the current version is expected to be submitted today, with files also made available via the project portal. TfNSW remains available for one-on-one sessions to walk through elements of the package.

4.2. August Community Day Invitation list

Raelene has provided the guest list, largely reflecting attendees from the previous event. One additional contact (Lauren) is to be added; Claire to action with Mona's assistance. It was agreed that the invitation would be sent from TfNSW, as the host organisation, to ensure the approach is received appropriately; TfNSW to send the invitation, with Tika EQ following up by phone once sent.

Archaeology items: Felicity has been unable to reach Matthew recently but will continue to follow up regarding logistics for artefact collection and safekeeping, proposing to collect items on Friday 14 August and return them on 17 August, subject to no objections. Confirmation is still required from the project team regarding the community collection and salvage schedule ahead of works commencing around 10 August.

VR/3D imaging update: confirmed availability for the community day on 16 August, allowing attendees to view the site model, adjust seasonal shadow settings, and visualise the pedestrian bridge and surrounding landscape design.

5.0 Questions / Comments / Any Other Business

5.1. Open Forum Blacktown City Council (Piper)

Confirmed a meeting is scheduled with the design team next week to align expectations, following which further detail will be provided; approval for investigation works was received that morning and will be forwarded. TfNSW confirmed the EPBC referral has progressed, alongside ongoing work on heritage impact assessment matters and confirmation of trench locations, including consideration of an S60 exemption pathway where applicable.

6.0 Close of Meeting

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

Next Meeting	
Date	Thursday 13 August 2026
Time	9:30am – 11:30am
Location	RRM7 South Street Site – 136 South Street, Marsden Park NSW 2765 (on-site and online)