

RRM7 Upgrade, Blacktown Native Institution – Meeting 27/2026
Dharug Strategic Management Group Working Group Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details	
Date	Thursday 27 th August 2026
Time	10:00am – 12:00pm
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, Felicity Barry, Noni Ross, Luke Messer, Erika Jimenez, Mona Saini
Blacktown City Council	Piper Sealy
Gamuda & DTI JV	Niall fry, Hussain Nilar, Nicle Zhao, Richard Buck, David Mudd

1.0 Standing Items

Welcome / Acknowledgement of Country

2.0 Governance

Action Items from Previous Meeting

Action Item 1: Reuse of Removed Trees

The project team advised that tree coordinates had been received, and the detailed pre-clearing report was expected that day. DSMG requested that suitable timber remain on Country where possible and be considered for seating, habitat, cultural use and retention of hollow-bearing sections. Material not suitable for direct reuse should be chipped and reused on site where practicable rather than wasted.

DSMG requested an opportunity to review the tree register and identify trees or sections to retain before removal, with a site walk to resolve any items requiring closer inspection.

Action Item 2: Aboriginal Participation Plan - Quarterly Update

The Working Group noted that the August community session provided a useful opportunity to explain project activities and participation initiatives in a practical, visual format. Members considered the level of technical detail appropriate and noted that the flyover and visual material helped the community better understand the scale and form of the works.

Discussed that some service-provider invitations were diverted to junk mail. Future engagement should include early follow-up, including direct phone contact where appropriate, to improve reach and attendance.

Action Item 3: Repatriation Activities / RAP Consultation

Repatriation planning remains scheduled for September. DSMG noted that decisions should be informed by a clearer understanding of the complete artefact assemblage, including material still undergoing analysis and cataloguing, before final repatriation arrangements are progressed.

Action Item 4: BNI Urban Design

The Working Group noted that contractor engagement for the BNI urban design work is close to progressing. Discussion focused on structuring the upcoming design workshop so technical matters can be addressed first while ensuring DSMG members are present before substantive design decisions are considered.

Topics identified included flooding and hydrology, technical design standards, access and parking, shared paths and footpaths, amenities, landscaping, lighting, ownership and maintenance. The group agreed that design elements should remain aligned with the established BNI vision and should not progress ahead of DSMG participation.

Action Item 5: Kangaroo Management / Temporary Fencing

The proposed location of temporary fencing was discussed. A mapped alignment is required so the Working Group can review the proposal in relation to kangaroo movement and site use

Action Item 6: Follow-up Email to Workshop Participants

The group supported sending a follow-up email thanking attendees, inviting any additional questions and seeking recommendations for local Dharug businesses that may be relevant to future project opportunities. Business suggestions are to be received through the project engagement/contact channel rather than attendee information being distributed.

3.0 Project Update

3.1 Current Project Update

The project team advised that works are active across multiple fronts. Asphalt works are expected to commence in early September, beginning in project zones before moving progressively toward the more complex intersection areas. This will involve night works, barrier movements and staged pavement construction over approximately four to six weeks.

Demolition activities are also due to commence at two properties, beginning with service disconnections and asbestos clearance before structural demolition. Through September and October, activity is expected to increase, including tree clearing, excavation and preparation for drainage and other major works. Pedestrian relocation remains programmed for later in the year.

Discussion also covered weed management and seed collection. DSMG highlighted the importance of controlling invasive species before disturbance and supported collection and propagation of suitable native seed/material from project-controlled land where feasible, including potential use for BNI restoration and Dharug community purposes.

3.2 Archaeology Update

The Working Group reflected positively on the archaeology presentation at the August community session and noted strong community interest in artefacts and archaeological

processes. Members discussed opportunities to use recovered or representative material in workforce toolbox talks so site personnel can better recognise cultural material and understand the significance of discoveries.

A small sample of stone material had been retained for educational purposes, with photographs also taken. The group supported incorporating short archaeology awareness sessions into regular workforce toolbox meetings, particularly before works move into areas with greater archaeological sensitivity.

3.3 Blacktown City Council Update

No separate Council project update was provided beyond the design workshop planning discussed under Governance. Council participation is expected to focus on technical requirements, including hydrology/flooding, access, design standards, ownership and maintenance considerations for the BNI works.

3.4 Artwork Update

The artwork program remains in progress. The next workshop had been provisionally held for 1 September, subject to confirmation that required design material would be ready for review. The group noted that the planned iconography workshop had not yet occurred and should form part of the next stage of engagement.

4.0 General Items for Discussion

4.1 August Community Day Debrief

The Working Group considered the August community information session successful overall. Feedback indicated that the combination of project explanations, archaeology content and visual material gave attendees a clearer and more balanced understanding of the works and helped address earlier uncertainty about the scale and form of the project.

Further feedback is still being received and will be reviewed before the next session. Members reiterated that future sessions should maintain the accessible, visual approach and continue to provide a variety of speakers and perspectives rather than relying on highly technical presentations.

5.0 Questions / Comments / Any Other Business

5.1 Open Forum

DSMG Members thanked those involved in the August community session and noted the value of the different presentations and perspectives. The discussion reinforced that visual information and plain-language explanations are helping the community understand the project and engage with issues relevant to them. No additional substantive business was raised.

6.0 Close of Meeting

The meeting was closed by Tika EQ.

Next Meeting	
Date	Thursday, 10 th September 2026

Time	9:30am – 11:30am
Location	RRM7 Site Office: 136 South Street, Marsden Park / Online