



Office of the Premier of New South Wales

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Senior Investigator
Investigation Division
NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption
Level 7, 255 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000

6 October 2020

Dear ■ ■ ■ ■ ■,

Operation Keppel

In accordance with the Premier's desire to assist the Independent Commission Against Corruption in respect of this matter, I sought information regarding a topic which arose on 2 October 2020 from the evidence in ICAC of Dr Sarah Hill.

On 5 October I wrote to the Chief Commissioner of the Greater Sydney Commission, Mr Roberts AM, seeking responses to two questions relating to the Greater Sydney Regional Plan. Mr Roberts responded to my letter on the same date.

I **enclose** copies of my letter and Mr Roberts's response, which are provided to assist ICAC with its investigation in this matter.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours sincerely

Neil Harley
Chief of Staff to the Premier



Office of the Premier of New South Wales

Mr Geoff Roberts AM
Chief Commissioner
Greater Sydney Commission
PO Box 257
Parramatta
NSW 2144

5 October 2020

Dear Mr Roberts,

Greater Sydney Regional Plan – Request for Information

As you may be aware, over the past fortnight the Independent Commission Against Corruption has been holding public hearings in the matter of Operation Keppel. Operation Keppel is an investigation into whether between 2012 and 2018 Daryl Maguire MP engaged in conduct that involved a breach of public trust by using his public office, involving his duties as a member of the NSW Parliament and the use of parliamentary resources, to gain an improper benefit for himself and entities close to him.

On Friday 2 October 2020 Dr Sarah Hill, the former CEO of the Greater Sydney Commission, gave evidence before ICAC.

In her evidence, Dr Hill referred to a meeting that she attended on 12 March 2018 at Parliament House with (amongst other people) Mr Maguire and Ms Louise Waterhouse. The subject of that meeting was the Greater Sydney Regional Plan, and in particular the intention was to give Mr Maguire an overview of the GSC's work in relation to the Western Parkland City: T888.19-42 (02/10/2020 Transcript).

In the course of the meeting, discussion turned to land near the Western Sydney Airport owned by Ms Waterhouse and its development potential: T897.27-32. In particular, Dr Hill's evidence was that Ms Waterhouse urged a favourable rezoning of her land.

Dr Hill's evidence was that following this meeting, she prepared a high priority briefing note for the then-Minister for Planning, the Hon Anthony Roberts MP: T908.24. Her intention was that Minister Roberts be made aware of the matter, which was imminently going to be before Cabinet for finalisation.

I seek the assistance of the GSC in relation to two issues pertaining to the meeting described in Dr Hill's evidence. To that end, I would be grateful for your response to the following two questions:

1. Was there any accommodation of Ms Waterhouse's request, as described in Dr Hill's briefing note, with respect to the Greater Sydney Regional Plan?



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2. Was the land designated in the Greater Sydney Regional Plan as “Metropolitan Rural Area” amended in any way between Infrastructure Committee of Cabinet’s consideration of the Plan on 6 March 2018 and Cabinet’s final approval of the Plan on 15 March 2018?

I would be grateful if you could provide your response as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Neil Harley
Chief of Staff to the Premier



Ref: 20/12100

5 October 2020

Mr Neil Harley
Chief of Staff to the Premier
GPO Box 5431
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Mr Harley

Greater Sydney Region Plan – Response to Request for Information

I refer to your letter, received on 5 October 2020, seeking clarification regarding two questions pertaining to issues raised by Dr Sarah Hill in her evidence to the Independent Commission against Corruption in relation to a meeting she attended with (amongst other people) Mr Maguire and Ms Louise Waterhouse.

I can confirm the following:

1. No. The Greater Sydney Commission (the Commission) did not accommodate Ms Waterhouse's request, as described in Dr Hill's briefing note, with respect to the Greater Sydney Region Plan (GSRP).
2. No. The land designated in the GSRP as "Metropolitan Rural Area" was not amended in any way between consideration of the GSRP by the Infrastructure Committee of Cabinet on 6 March 2018 and Cabinet's final approval of the plan on 15 March 2018.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Roberts AM
Chief Commissioner