

PROJECT CHARTER

1 Project title

Metropolitan Rural Area Review

2 Project purpose

The purpose of the project is to prepare a Review of the Metropolitan Rural Area (MRA) that informs the 5-year review of the Western City District Plan.

The initial stage (to end July 2022) develops a basis for review and recommendations regarding the definition of and key policy approach to Metropolitan Rural Lands, as applies to the Western Parkland City (WPC).

3 Project objectives

The project objectives are:

- To coordinate local Council input and lead the development of an MRA review that directly informs the District and Greater Sydney Regional Plan Review, ensuring it reflects Council's plans and strategies, key concerns, challenges, and emerging opportunities in the WPC.
- To work collaboratively with the GCC to test the effectiveness and impact of the MRA designations in the current District Plan and Greater Sydney Regional Plan; and to collaborate with DPE to consider lessons learned and the implications of MRA designation on statutory planning.
- To review and strengthen the role and approach to the MRA, including the approach to villages and towns within in the MRA. The review will not, however consider individual landholdings, nor urban investigation area boundaries or additional growth areas.
- To ensure MRA issues arising from local planning and broader community/ stakeholder priorities are addressed in the Plan reviews.
- To ensure the review is guided by an understanding of the importance of Country and that the GCC is supported in its efforts to engage with the Aboriginal community in developing its approach to the MRA.
- To review emerging issues and changes to the wider policy context in the last 5 years in the context of the MRA, with a focus on being resilient to bushfire and floods and future- ready.
- To identify and evaluate policy options that would address key matters relating to the MRA.
- To provide additional critical analysis regarding the wider values of the MRA- economic, environmental/ecosystem services and social.
- Undertake consultation with local Councillors as an opportunity to identify key issues to be identified.
- To prepare 2 technical working papers for the audience of the WSPP, PCG, Councils and GCC:
 - a) an initial working paper on the 'the basis for review' of the MRA to inform the District Plan Review, including discussion of emerging issues and pressures.
 - b) a second working paper on policy options to address key areas identified in the 'basis for review.'
- To prepare a draft Review (for consideration by individual councils prior to finalisation).