



Attached
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SUBMISSION TO:

Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities inquiry into the Australian Government's role in the development of cities

We are pleased to provide the attached report, 'Environment Panel Advisory Paper' (2016) as the bulk of our submission to the Inquiry.

We believe the vision for Sydney has direct relevance to the Inquiry:

- A city that values its unique environmental landscape and biodiversity; and which all citizens can enjoy and protect
- A healthy city with clean air and water and sufficient green open space and tree cover providing widespread opportunities for relaxation and exercise
- A resource efficient city where the environmental impacts of water and energy supply and disposal of solid, liquid and gaseous waste are minimised
- A resilient city, able to cope with extreme events
- A city that knows and values its history

Importantly environmental values deliver multiple economic and social benefits and these should be recognised in city development.

Clearly the Commonwealth can have a significant influence and we urge the Committee to identify a range of roles, in particular policy, coordination and finance, that can help achieve a balanced outcome for a liveable and sustainable city – as opposed to skewing the outcome, by for example focussing one form of transport (eg, roads) over another.

The Commonwealth also has a direct role with land it owns and we urge that the Australian government adopts best practise in ecologically sustainable planning.

Each of the environmental values discussed in the report face a number of barriers to achieving protection and enhancement and where possible and appropriate, the Australian government should seek to assist in overcoming these.

Jeff Angel
Director