



**Australian Government**  
**National Capital Authority**

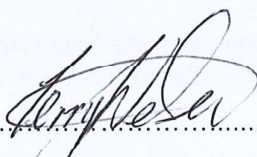
# **NATIONAL CAPITAL AUTHORITY**

**Authority Meeting A2025/3**

**3 June 2025**

**Public Record**

*I endorse this Public Record of the  
Authority meeting held on 3 June 2025*

  
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Mr Terry Weber, Chair of the National Capital Authority

This document is a public record of the National Capital Authority meeting held on 3 June 2025. As some matters discussed at Authority meetings are personal, privileged and/or confidential, this record follows but does not represent the formal minutes of the meeting.

### **Administration and Governance**

The following Authority Members attended the meeting: Mr Terry Weber (Chair), Ms Karen Doran (Chief Executive), Mr James Willson and Professor Helen Lochhead. Ms Jenny Smithson was an apology for the meeting.

This meeting was the Authority's third regular meeting for 2025.

The Chair opened the meeting, welcomed members and attendees and made an acknowledgement of country

The Authority attended to the standard administrative and governance processes for the meeting including disclosing and managing any conflicts of interest.

### **UNSW External Presentation**

The Authority noted the UNSW Canberra City Campus report and the attachments to the report including the delivery program for the UNSW Canberra City Masterplan, and the outcomes of the public consultation on the Stage 1 Proposal.

UNSW Representatives presented the UNSW Canberra City Masterplan to the Authority with the Masterplan to be developed in four stages. The Authority noted that the project has submitted the works approval application for Stage 1, with community consultation recently closed. UNSW informed the Authority of proposed traffic management and matters raised in its own consultation process.

The Authority discussed key matters including the timeline for construction and design quality of the buildings, as well as climate and sustainability in construction design.

NCA Officers provided the Authority with a summary of the NCA community consultation outcomes, noting that queries were generally regarding traffic congestion, noise and dust during construction, with no material objections put forward.

### **Hume Circle External Presentation**

The Authority noted the Hume Circle report and the proposed framework for renewal of Hume Circle.

The Authority discussed proposed provisions to be embedded in the apartment design guidelines to be included as part of a future draft amendment to the National Capital Plan. The Authority noted the guidelines would apply more broadly than just the proposed Hume Circle precinct, and determined that the framework should be prepared as a standard (a statutory requirement under the Plan) rather than as guidance material. The Authority discussed the Hume Circle Masterplan and the specific roles of the NCA, ACT Government and property developers in progressing the proposal.

The Authority discussed its purpose and role for the proposed development, and the importance of appropriate consultation with ACT Government prior to a community consultation package being prepared.

The Authority agreed to the proposed provisions proposed in the Apartment Design Standards as part of a future draft amendment to the National Capital Plan.



## **Chief Executive Report**

The Authority considered the Chief Executive's report and the attachments to the report. Key items in the report included but were not limited to:

- North Curtin diplomatic estate and a shortage of alternative available land
- Redevelopment of governance structure for major infrastructure projects
- Community forum planned to be conducted in mid-July
- Presentation of National Triangle visitors map and progress on brand awareness
- Update on commercial arrangements and consideration for improved long-term viability

## **Federation Fountains**

The Authority noted the Federation Fountains report and the attachments to the report. Attachments included the base case, and three concept design proposals for renewal of the Federation Fountains (Base Case, Option 1, Option 2 and Option 3). The Authority noted that the NCA has received heritage advice that concludes there is no heritage significance tied to the specific fabric of the existing fountains.

The Authority considered the proposed interim solutions to make the fountains safe and visually presentable for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Old Parliament House in 2027. The Authority noted that an interim solution could be implemented by December 2026.

The Authority also discussed the review progress of the various NCA Heritage Management Plans and the approval process for these plans.

Having regard to the information provided and the discussions held, the Authority made the following decisions:

- The Authority agreed to a preferred long-term design concept, and to proceed with an Interim Design Option.
- The Authority agreed that a Consultation Strategy be developed, and that consultation with stakeholders will commence in the second half of 2025.

## **Audit and Risk Items**

The Authority noted the Audit and Risk Report and the attachments to the report. The Authority noted feedback from the Audit and Risk Committee with respect to proposed maximum tenure in the Audit Committee Charter, and determined that tenure periods stated in the Audit and Risk Committee Charter should be consistent with tenure periods in the Authority Charter.

The Authority noted the procurement process to appoint new committee members was underway.

Having regard to the information provided, the Authority made the following decision:

- The Authority approved amendments to the Audit and Risk Committee Charter subject to amendments in respect of maximum tenure for consistency with the Authority Charter.

## **Works Approval Report**

The Authority considered and discussed the Works Approval report and the attachments to the report. A summary of key items included:

- Canberra Theatre and stakeholder consultation
- National Security precinct

### **Works Approval e-lodgement Review**

The Authority reviewed the Works Approval e-lodgement 12-month post implementation review, noting key issues including payment functionality and reporting capability, and that these issues were being resolved. It was noted that there was no change from the applicants' perspective in process between the old and new systems, and that there had been no concerns raised by applicants.

The Authority noted that the prior system was to be decommissioned and was no longer supported, but that access was still required for historical purposes including freedom of information requests.

### **Strategic Planning Report**

The Authority considered the Strategic Planning Report and the attachments to the report. A summary of key matters included:

- Commonwealth Park Concept Vision consultation update
- Bruce Precinct Masterplan update

### **Major Infrastructure Projects update**

The Authority considered and discussed the Major Infrastructure Projects report and the governance structure for major infrastructure projects (Commonwealth Avenue Bridge and Scrivener Dam).

The Authority noted a number of reports with a summary of key issues as follows;

#### **Key Governance Matters**

- Work, health and safety matters
- Litigation and claims
- Risk management update
- Audit and assurance update

#### **Statement of Intent Implementation**

- Authority skills review undertaken with the Authority collectively demonstrating the required skills
- Discussion paper via independent review progressing well

#### **Finance Report**

- Financial performance for the period ending 30 April 2025 including full year forecast and a small Departmental operating loss

#### **Design & Construct Projects Report**

- Update on National Memorial for Victims and Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse
- Update on Neville Bonner AO commemoration
- Concept design for International Flag Display
- Proposed Jimmy Clements and John Noble Commemoration

#### **Performance Measures Report**

- Quarter three performance snapshot 2024-25



## Lake Precinct Analysis

The Authority noted time constraints and determined that the presentation of the Weston Park analysis be deferred to a future meeting, and that a future site visit to Weston Park would be beneficial.

## Other Business

The Authority noted that both Prof Lochhead and Mr Weber would not be available to attend the meeting of 21 October 2025.

The Authority agreed to defer the October meeting from 21 October to 28 October 2025.

## Forward Agenda

The Authority reviewed the forward agenda and the increased number of requests from external presenters for the August and October meetings, and the impact on meeting times and agenda items. The Authority determined that additional meeting times be considered

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 3:00pm.

## Hume Circle Site visit

The Authority attended Hume Circle to conduct a site inspection of the proposed Hume Circle Precinct.

## Summary Of Decisions

1	The Authority agreed that items marked completed on the Action Items report can be closed out and removed from the report.
2	The Authority agreed to the proposed provisions to be embedded in the Apartment Design Standards as part of a future draft amendment to the National Capital Plan.
3	The Authority agreed to a preferred long-term design concept
4	The Authority agreed to proceed with an Interim Design Option.
5	The Authority agreed that a Consultation Strategy be developed, and that consultation with stakeholders will commence in the second half of 2025.
6	The Authority approved amendments to the Audit and Risk Committee Charter, subject to amendments in respect of maximum tenure as discussed in the meeting.
7	The Authority agreed to defer the October meeting from 21 October to 28 October 2025.

