

*Response to Draft Greater Sydney Region Plan by* [Name removed as requested]

The plan focuses, and is based on, “transforming Greater Sydney into a metropolis of three cities”, what evidence is there, and what research has been done to demonstrate that this is the best and most viable solution? How does the plan provide for a socially inclusive city? Will this not result in exacerbating a tiered, classist city where the wealthier one is the further east one lives? Research shows that these types of wealth divided cities have high social costs which are culturally and economically devastating and almost irreversible. This plan seems to rely heavily on social engineering through development and the creation of false commercial economies, potentially through subsidies and incentives. This appears to be a crude, archaic attempt at planning that belongs to a by-gone era. There is no detail provided of any evidence based approach to show that the basis of the whole plan has been properly analysed and considered against alternative solutions.

Greater Sydney with approximately 4,000sq.m of urban area is already one of the largest metropolises by area in the world. There is no apparent need to continue unsustainable and ill-considered urban sprawl.

Sydney, and for that matter NSW and Australia, would benefit more from focusing on better connecting Sydney to other regional cities including Newcastle, Wollongong and Canberra. Canberra or Newcastle should be ‘Sydney’s second airport’ with high-speed rail links between the cities.

This is a lazy, forced and false plan that is not supported by sufficient research or evidence.