

NSW Department of Planning and Environment GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

Subject: Response to Exhibition – Draft Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan

Lake Macquarie City Council (Council) provides the following submission in response to the Draft Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan (Draft Metropolitan Plan). Council welcomes the opportunity to comment, and Council adopted the submission on 26 February 2018.

Council previously provided comment on the draft Hunter Regional Plan and the proposed Hunter City Proposal, and it is noted that Council's comments have generally been incorporated. Council recognises the importance of Greater Newcastle as the seventh largest city in Australia, and the benefits that can be gained from collaborative, long-term land use and infrastructure planning for a metropolitan city.

Lake Macquarie City has over 200,000 residents, the highest number of residents in the Hunter. This submission generally supports the draft Metropolitan Plan. Council was disappointed that this draft failed to recognise the areas of Lake Macquarie that have the potential to provide both significant economic and housing targets for the region.

Since the draft was released, Council has worked closely with Department of Planning and Environment Staff to develop a proposal for the inclusion of a new catalyst area for North West Lake Macquarie. You will see this proposal feature prominently in our submission. The Department's willingness to work with Council in this way is a positive feature of the process that I hope to build upon as the Metropolitan Plan is finalised and implemented.

Should you require further information, please contact Council's Principal Strategic Planner, Shane Cahill, on 4921 0767 or email scahill@lakemac.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Morven Cameron

**Chief Executive Officer**