

1.4 Structure of this environmental assessment report

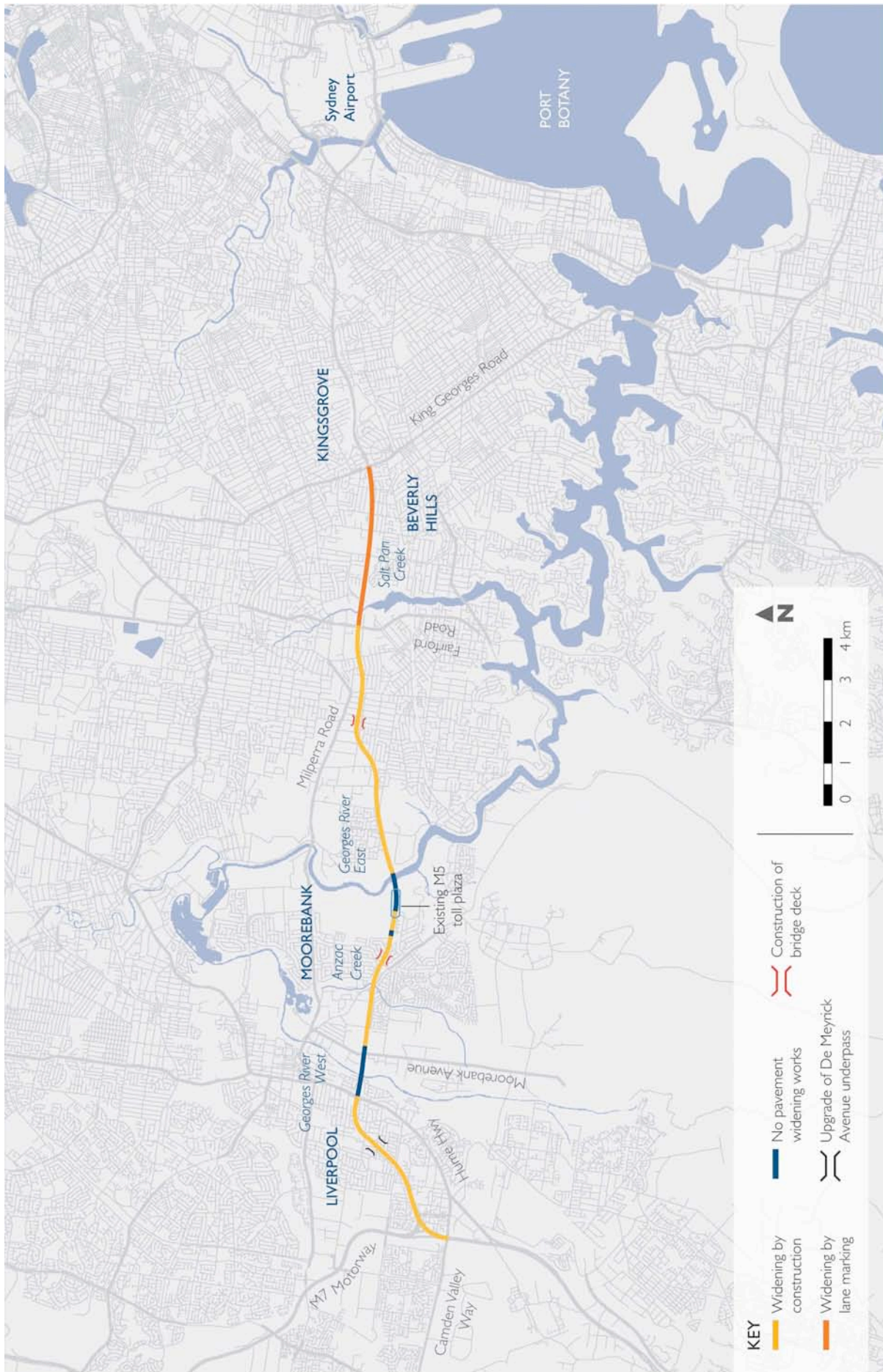
The RTA is seeking project approval under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. This environmental assessment has been prepared to address the requirements issued by the Director General of the NSW Department of Planning on 6 May 2010.

The environmental assessment is divided into two volumes. Volume 1 is structured as follows:

- Introduction (Chapter 1) – provides a broad overview of the project and a general description of the study area.
- Planning and statutory requirements (Chapter 2) – outlines the statutory requirements and explains the steps in the assessment and approval process.
- Strategic justification (Chapter 3) – provides the strategic context and details the need for and objectives of the project.
- Project development and alternatives (Chapter 4) – reviews the alternatives considered in developing the project.
- Project description (Chapter 5) – presents the route alignment, project components and relevant design standards (including urban design).
- Project construction (Chapter 6) – details the approach, program, equipment, resources, workforce and ancillary facilities required to construct the project.
- Community involvement and consultation (Chapter 7) – describes the consultation undertaken prior to exhibition of the environmental assessment and identifies the issues raised by stakeholders as a result of that consultation process.
- Assessment of key issues (Chapter 8) – considers the potential impacts of the project relative to the identified key environmental issues and identifies associated mitigation and management requirements.
- Other environmental issues (Chapter 9) – considers the potential impacts of the project (including potential cumulative impacts and interactions) relative to other environmental issues and identifies associated mitigation and management requirements.
- Environment risk analysis (Chapter 10) – details the risk analysis process by which the potential environmental issues for assessment were determined.
- Draft statement of commitments (Chapter 11) – outlines how the environmental impacts of the project would be avoided, minimised, managed, mitigated, offset and/or monitored.
- Justification and conclusion (Chapter 12) – justifies the need for the project and summarises the environmental issues.

Volume 2 of the environmental assessment contains the following appendices to the environmental assessment report:

- Appendix A – Minister's Orders.
- Appendix B – Director General's Requirements and checklist.
- Appendix C – Concept design.
- Appendix D – Consultation issues checklist.
- Appendix E – Working paper: Traffic and transport.
- Appendix F – Working paper: Noise and vibration.
- Appendix G – Working paper: Biodiversity.
- Appendix H – Working paper: Visual impact, urban design and landscaping.



Note: Project detail shown is indicative only, subject to detailed design.

Figure 1.2 Overview of the M5 West widening project

