



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

24 November 2016

To whomever it may concern
NSW Government Department of Planning and the Environment

Ref: SSD 7745 Site 18, Sydney Olympic Park NSW Rugby League Centre of Excellence

Dear Sir/Madam

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is pleased to be able to provide this submission supporting the proposed development of the NSW Rugby League centre of Excellence.

The RAS is a key stakeholder in Sydney Olympic Park (SOP) and a strong supporter of the NSW Government's vision to grow the precinct off the back of infrastructure investments that will integrate the area with the rapidly developing Parramatta CBD and surrounding suburbs. Accordingly, this proposed development sets about accommodating more activity within the park further cementing Sydney Olympic Park as the premier sports and entertainment precinct in NSW, in turn improving the liveability of the precinct and the RAS is proud and delighted to support this development.

Sydney Olympic Park as a Destination

With the impending delivery of the proposed new Western Sydney Airport, Parramatta Light Rail and West Metro, Sydney Olympic Park has the opportunity to become Western Sydney's equivalent of Darling Harbour; a true Western Sydney Destination. Developments such as the NSW Rugby league Centre of Excellence are entirely consistent with this opportunity and we look forward to having the NSW Rugby League as our neighbour and part of the Sydney Olympic Park family.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this submission, should you require anything further please do not hesitate to contact our Head of Property Development, Jonathan Seward.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brock Gilmour', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brock Gilmour
Chief Executive

About the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is a truly iconic Australian organisation and has been an influential force in the direction and development of Australian agriculture through competitions, education and events since its foundation in 1822. In 2022 we celebrate our bicentenary and enter our 3rd century of continued operation.

In its role as an exponent for excellence in agriculture, the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW organises events and competitions, acts as a guardian for the state's agricultural heritage, celebrates Australia's achievements in agriculture and works to promote the viability of rural communities by ensuring that Australia remains a thriving and innovative agricultural producer.

At the heart of the RAS is a not-for-profit commitment to support the development of agriculture in Australia whilst creating over \$616 million of annual economic contribution for the State of NSW, generated by events at Sydney Showground and 1 million hotel bed nights every year.

Revenue generated through the Sydney Showground activity and events such as the Sydney Royal Easter Show allows the RAS to invest \$11 million back into agricultural programs, competitions, education and youth initiatives, and rural communities annually.

Sydney Royal Easter Show

The Sydney Royal Easter Show (SRES) is Australia's largest annual ticketed event, attended by approximately 8-900,000 visitors when Sydney celebrates the vital role that agriculture plays in the health and wealth of our nation and applauds the highest achievers in agricultural excellence. Non-stop competitions, a thrilling entertainment program featuring international stars and innovative ideas are the highlights of this 14-day event.

Sydney Royal Wine, Dairy & Fine Food Shows

The Sydney Royal Wine, Dairy & Fine Food competitions showcase the best of Australia's food, wine and dairy and where the industries display their finest produce in head-to-head competitions, where a win represents the highest industry accolade. The award of a 'Sydney Royal' medal is a most sought after prize and is a significant contributor to product demand both domestically and overseas.

Sydney Showground

Sydney Showground is at the heart of Sydney Olympic Park and is operated by the RAS on a long term 99 + 99 year lease from SOPA.

Home to the RAS and the SRES, Sydney Showground provides a year-round exhibition and events venue that hosts a diverse range of activity, sporting events, corporate functions, conferences and concerts. It is a complementary venue to the new International Convention Centre at Darling Harbour catering to the domestic event market and is Western Sydney's number 1 event venue. Sydney Showground is also home to the AFL's Greater Western Sydney Giants and cricket's Sydney Thunder both playing out of the Sydney Showground Stadium otherwise known as Spotless Stadium, Western Sydney's premier sporting oval.

RAS Foundation

The RAS also has a charitable arm of the business, the RAS Foundation (RASf). The RASf aims to build strong, vibrant rural communities in NSW through investment in education, training and skills development by providing grants and scholarships. The RAS contributes a significant amount annually to the RASf to invest in these programs. The RASf also receives donations from individuals, corporates and foundations.

Australasian Animal Registry

The Australasian Animal Registry (AAR) is Australia's largest and most comprehensive not-for-profit animal registration and recovery service, with a database of over 1,800,000 animals from across Australia and New Zealand.