

**MM17/24 ADVOCACY FOR INNOVATION STATE ENVIRONMENTAL
PLANNING POLICY (SEPP) - Mayor, Councillor Trenton
Brown****File Number:** GRP/24/36 - BP24/427

The protection and advancement of our innovation precincts is crucial for the City of Ryde and Greater Sydney, where spaces for innovation are far and few in between. These areas are the lifeblood of our local economies, fostering cutting-edge technology industries and creating vibrant, mixed-use communities that blend residential living with dynamic employment opportunities.

By protecting and nurturing our innovation precincts, we are investing in the future success of Greater Sydney. The City of Ryde Council and its elected representatives are committed to ensure that our city remains at the forefront of human and technological advancement, economic growth, and sustainable urban development.

The proposed *Innovation State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP)* provides a groundbreaking mechanism to support and evolve these crucial precincts. It introduces specialist zoning tailored for advanced technology industries and encourages the co-location of these industries with mixed-use residential developments.

The Innovation SEPP is a proposal to streamline approvals, improve efficient decision making, and support future master planning of innovation precincts across NSW. Ideally, the Innovation SEPP would deliver next generation employment opportunities alongside quality residential development with local amenities that support workers and residents.

Council staff have worked on a draft Innovation SEPP that needs further collaboration from other local Councils and the NSW Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure to see it through to fulfilment. Delivering the Innovation SEPP for the Macquarie Park Innovation District, for example, could act as a broader case study for how local and State governments can work together to strike the right balance - delivering housing and diverse employment for future generations.

As we look to the future, it is imperative that we, as leaders of our communities, come together to support and advocate for the continued development and refinement of the Innovation SEPP.

MM17/24 (continued)**RECOMMENDATION:**

- (a) That the Mayor write to the Mayors of other Sydney Metropolitan Councils alongside City of Newcastle, City of Wollongong, and Central Coast Council to collaborate with Ryde for the formulation and advocacy of an Innovation SEPP that can be applied to numerous innovation precincts within those local government areas.
- (b) That the Mayor, following collaboration from the other Councils, write to the Premier of NSW, The Hon. Chris Minns MP, and the NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, The Hon. Paul Scully MP, seeking a meeting and collaboration between the NSW State Government and interested Councils to refine and implement this Innovation SEPP.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:

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Mayor