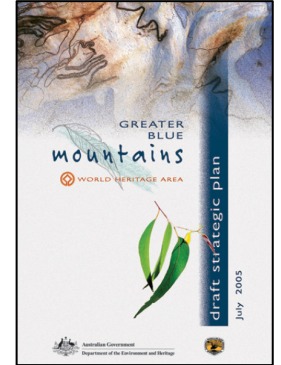


The first working meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWA) was held at the Mount Tomah Botanic Garden in November 2006. The Committee assessed the draft Strategic Plan for the GBMWA and recommended minor changes to the document. The Committee resolved to recommend the draft Plan to the State and Federal Minister for their approval and subsequent publishing.



Advisory Committee members Phil Costa, Wendy Lewis, Lincoln Hall, Doug Benson, Julia James, Richard Mackay, Judy Smith, Haydn Washington and Joan Domicelj (Chair).

Terms of reference, the role of the Committee and meeting dates for 2007 were resolved.

The Advisory Committee heard from Ian Brown, representing Elanus Word and Image who prepared the Visitor Interpretation and Orientation Plan for the GBMWA. Ian described the process and outlined the status of the Plan's implementation.

Rob Smith, Managing Curator of the Botanic Garden outlined the proposed World Heritage Exhibition Centre to be located at the Garden.

The Advisory Committee and observers participated in a short field trip to the Bald Hill Trig, overlooking Newnes Plateau and discussed the issues of the Newnes Kaolin Sand Mine and potential for the area to be reserved as a State Conservation Area under the Gardens of Stone Stage 2 proposal. →



The GBMWA Advisory Committee is made up of scientific, technical, Aboriginal and community members appointed by the State and Commonwealth Environment Ministers. The Strategic Plan for the Area is used by the Committee to guide its operations and in providing advice to those Ministers regarding issues relevant to the Area.

The Advisory Committee meets quarterly in different locations around the million hectares of spectacular national parks and reserves that comprise the GBMWA, recognised and protected for its outstanding universal values.

For more information contact the World Heritage Executive Officer
by telephone on (02) 4784 7326 or via email to gbm.worldheritage@environment.nsw.gov.au