



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

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Draft NSW Freight and Ports Plan
Transport for NSW

Via Submissions Portal

The draft Greater Newcastle Future Transport Plan outlines initiatives to be taken to ensure that the Port of Newcastle remains a vibrant and important port facility for NSW. This plan is a support plan for the NSW Freight and Ports Plan a future Transport 2056 Strategy.

The Country Mayors Association supports a Newcastle Container Terminal. The Port of Newcastle has been identified as a global gateway and customer outcomes support the development of the global gateway of Greater Newcastle. A major infrastructure initiative in the Newcastle Plan is to optimize the capacity and safety of existing infrastructure.

The port of Newcastle is very important to country NSW and in particular northern and central New South Wales. These areas of the state are major coal, stock and crop producing areas with much of the areas overseas exports passing through the Port of Newcastle.

The continuation of the Port of Newcastle Container Terminal needs to be undertaken without charging the lessee a fee which effectively doubles the cost of shipping a container through Newcastle compared with Port Botany. This is in effect a compensation payment to Port Botany/Port Kembla for losing any container shipping business to Newcastle and is preventing the Port of Newcastle competing with Port Botany/Port Kembla for container shipping.

There needs to be competition between ports and surely an expanded container terminal in the Port of Newcastle would reduce transport costs for those located closer to the Port of Newcastle wishing to export.

It is hoped the above points are taken into consideration when finalizing the future Freight and Ports Plan.

Yours sincerely

Cr Katrina Humphries
Chairperson