

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.



Tarago former Station Master's Cottage

Transport for NSW (Transport) is seeking feedback on the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the demolition and remediation of the Tarago former Station Master's Cottage (FSMC).

Background

Transport has identified lead contamination at the FSMC. The lead contamination is related to a historical mining load-out facility.

The strategy for the site is demolition and remediation, followed by a process known as historical interpretation.

What is the scope of the REF?

The REF outlines the features of the demolition and remediation project and assesses the potential environmental and community impacts expected during the work.

It also includes how we plan to reduce these impacts on the community and environment.

Your feedback will help us understand what is important to the community and identify additional ways to reduce potential impacts.

What are the potential impacts?

The key potential impacts or risks identified in the REF include:

- dust management during demolition, excavation and heavy vehicle loading.
- ensuring community feedback is obtained on the historical significance of the FSMC.

How will Transport reduce the potential impacts?

The REF outlines the mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts on the community and environment. These include:

- a Dust Management Plan – which will be prepared by the remediation contractor before remediation work starts and implemented during remediation
- air quality monitoring – which will be conducted during the remediation works
- an Historical Interpretation Project - to seek community feedback and identify a possible commemorative tribute.

What are the key findings of the REF?

The key findings of the REF are:

- removing contaminated materials is expected to result in positive social impacts and protect the environment
- an environmental impact statement, species impact statement and/or biodiversity development assessment report is not required for the proposal
- the proposal is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment due to the limited

scope of works and the expected level of remediation required

- the proposal is unlikely to impact on a matter of national environmental significance and therefore a referral under the Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act is not required.

When will the work take place?

Demolition work for the FSMC is planned for 2026, following approval of the Review of Environmental Factors (REF).

The work for the FSMC will be completed in two stages:

- stage 1 includes demolition of the FMSC and is planned for 2026
- stage 2 includes remediation of the land within the FMSC and the Tarago Rail Corridor and is planned for 2027.

We'd like to hear from you

The REF is on public display from **30 June to 28 July 2025** and community feedback is invited.

To view the REF and provide feedback, please visit: <https://bit.ly/tarago-fsmc-ref-HYS>

How to provide feedback:

Website: <https://bit.ly/tarago-fsmc-ref-HYS>

and make a submission.

Email: landassessment@transport.nsw.gov.au

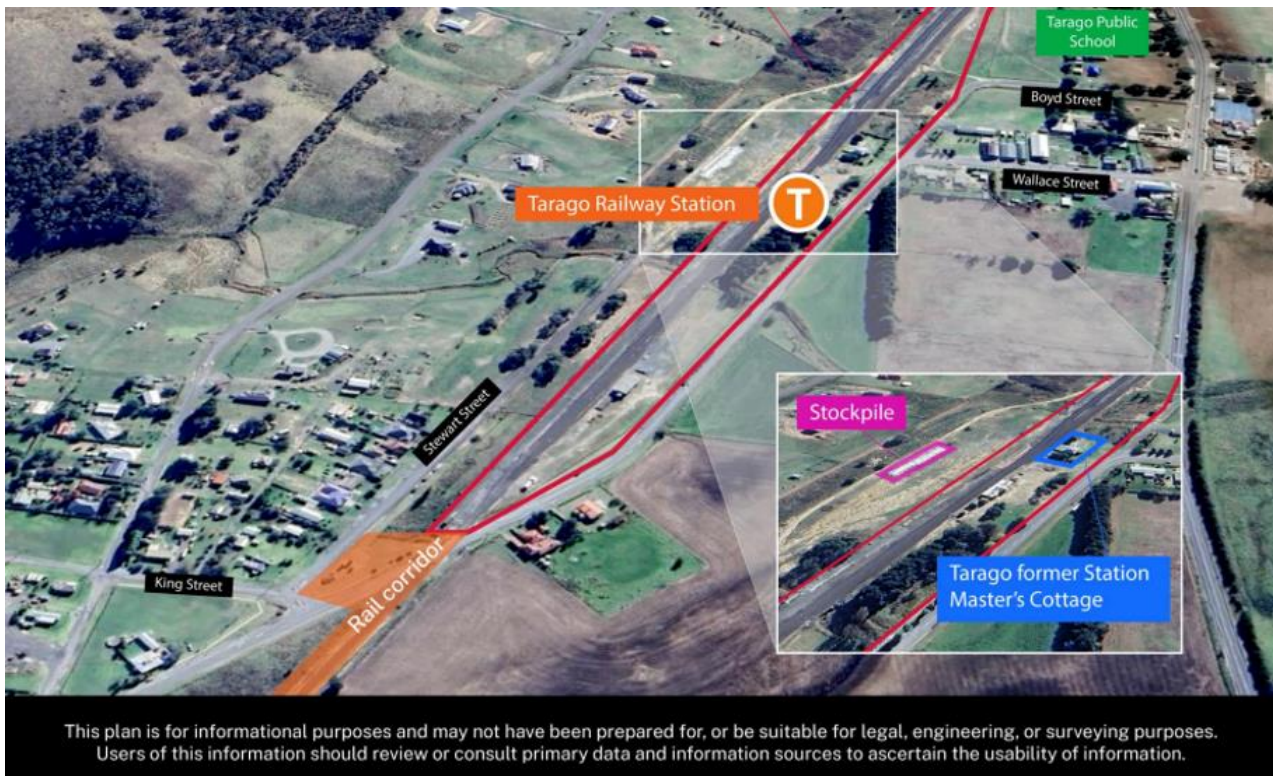
Phone: Call 1800 491 566 to request a phone survey.

What happens next?

When this consultation closes, Transport will:

- assess all feedback received
- develop and publish a report summarising the feedback received and Transport's response
- seek internal approval to proceed with the project
- proceed with detailed design
- demolish and clear the site
- remediate the land within the FMSC site and the Tarago Rail Corridor.

Location of Site



Frequently asked questions

What other work is planned at Tarago Rail Corridor?

The demolition and remediation of the FSMC is part of larger program of remediation works within the Tarago Rail Corridor. Remediation works are also planned to occur in the rail corridor and a stockpile of waste material located on privately owned land.

What were the outcomes from the consultation held in 2023?

In 2023, Transport consulted the community on the future of the Tarago former Station Master's Cottage (FSMC) and its potential uses. This feedback was considered as part of a future land use assessment for the Site.

At the community information event on 20 September 2023, Transport announced the decision to demolish the cottage as it is the most cost effective and efficient way to progress remediation of the site. Transport is not able to sustain the ongoing maintenance costs of

keeping the cottage and Council have confirmed with Transport that they are unable to maintain the asset.

While the FSMC is not heritage listed, it has been assessed as part of Transport's Regional Rail Heritage Strategy. The structure is a 'typical' type of Station Master's residence and has not been selected in the representative collection as part of the Regional Rail Heritage Strategy.

The Site will be remediated at the same time as the Rail Corridor.

How long is the work expected to take?

The demolition work at the FSMC is expected to take two weeks. The remediation work is expected to take two weeks and would occur at the same time as the remediation of the Tarago Rail Corridor site. Remediation of the Rail Corridor is expected to take about 12 weeks.

Has Transport consulted on the historical interpretation of the FSMC?

Transport is planning to honour the history and values of the FSMC and identify an appropriate commemorative tribute. The purpose of the project is to understand:

- historical values of the Site
- how these values can be best interpreted
- determine a possible commemorative tribute that reflects the historical, cultural and community importance of the Site.

Transport has consulted with internal subject matter experts, Goulburn Mulwaree Council, key community groups and the wider community to help us best understand how to interpret the former site.

Community consultation started in December 2024 and concluded on 3 February 2025.

The Project Team are considering the feedback received and preparing a Consultation Outcomes Report. At this stage the report will be released in mid-2025.

We will keep the community informed as the project progresses. For more information, please email the project team at regionalassetmanagement@transport.nsw.gov.au or visit the project website: <https://bit.ly/Tarago-FSMC-HIP-Transport>.

What's happening with the Rail Corridor?

The project is in the Remediation Planning phase. A Remediation Options Assessment was prepared for the Tarago Rail Corridor and FSMC. Transport considered all social, economic and environmental impacts of the options and community feedback.

The preferred option is off-site disposal at a licensed waste facility near Sydney.

We are committed to ensuring the health and wellbeing of the community and our workers and will continue to work with the EPA to manage the site.

Transport is preparing a Remediation Action Plan and planning approvals to progress the

project.

Transport has conducted air and surface water monitoring for over five years. The results consistently confirm there is no evidence of lead concentrations exceeding the human health and ecological investigation criteria migrating from the Site.

Will Transport develop an REF for the Rail Corridor?

Transport is developing an REF for the Rail Corridor. The key potential impacts or risks identified in the REF include:

- dust management during demolition, excavation and heavy vehicle loading
- soil and water management
- heavy vehicle movements and materials tracking.

The REF outlines the mitigation measures to minimise impacts on the community and environment. This includes developing a Dust Management Plan and air quality monitoring. The REF is being finalised and is expected to be placed on public display in Quarter 3, 2025.

Transport will update the community on the REF as information becomes available.

We will also keep the community informed as remediation planning work progresses.

Remediation work is planned for 2027.

For more information on our planning work at Tarago visit [Tarago rail yards lead contamination | Transport for NSW](#).

What time will trucks remove waste material from the site?

Trucks will transport waste material from the site between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday to avoid school pick up and drop off times and bus operations.

Why has Transport developed a Statement of Heritage Impact?

The Woodlawn Siding Rail Corridor forms part of the Tarago Rail Precinct which is listed on the State Heritage Register. Transport has prepared a Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI) for the

remediation works in the Rail Corridor.

The SOHI determined that listed items are separated from the work area by at least the width of one set of railway lines. As a result, there will be no direct impact to the identified heritage values. The works will not alter the visual amenity or aesthetic appeal of the listed heritage items.

A Section 57 Heritage Exemption has been prepared for the proposed remediation works.

Conditions will apply to the proposed works including the implementation of an unexpected heritage finds procedure.

The SOHI is available on our [website](#).

What's happening with the Stockpile?

The Stockpile is located on Veolia land, adjacent to the Tarago Rail Corridor. The volume of waste to be removed from the Stockpile is far less than the volume of waste to be removed from the Rail Corridor (750 cubic metres compared to 4650 cubic metres).

The remediation strategy for the Stockpile is off-site disposal at an appropriately licensed facility in Sydney. This is the most efficient option. Control measures will be in place during the remediation of the Stockpile.

Transport has completed a Remediation Action Plan (RAP) for the remediation of the Stockpile.

Will there be an REF for the Stockpile?

An REF has been developed for the removal of the Stockpile. The key risks identified are dust management during excavation and heavy vehicle loading.

The REF outlines the mitigation measures to minimise impacts on the community and environment. This includes developing a Dust Management Plan and air quality monitoring during the work.

The REF will be made available for information on the project website.

When will the Stockpile be removed?

We are currently in the procurement phase to engage a contractor to implement the RAP. The works are planned to be completed in mid-2026, subject to weather and planning approvals. We will keep the community updated as timelines are confirmed.

Contact us



Project Infoline **1800 491 566**



landassessment@transport.nsw.gov.au



<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/tarago-rail-yards-lead-contamination>



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