Investment NSW – Green Paper on Industry Policy

Technology and Innovation, Customer Strategy and Technology

<u>Submission</u>

Summary

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) acknowledges that Investment NSW consistently recognises the growth opportunities in digital and technologies. However, transport technologies are not included as a 'pillar', as agricultural, financial, and medical technologies are (for example). TfNSW suggests this inclusion in the Green Paper may place NSW in a strong position to discuss its strengths and opportunities.

NSW is a recognised world leader in many areas of transport technology, including customer information, booking and payment systems. It is also a leader in intelligent transport systems that embed smart sensors and advanced computing across the infrastructure network, and is equally recognised for its work on emerging technologies such as electric, automated and connected vehicles, electric aviation, Mobility as a Service, and new service and business models.

Technology can be a target of industry policy to realise improvements in an industry's productivity, and for growth of the technology industries themselves. TfNSW also notes the strategic directions in transport technologies, innovation and partnership pathways that already exist in NSW. These existing activities would be supported by a stronger focus on industry development such as those which exist in the United Kingdom, among other locations. In these places, industry and development programs actively contribute to innovation, incubation and acceleration. Such examples include:

- Innovate UK
- Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (UK)
- Israel's Ministry of Economy and Industry
- Israel Innovation Institute
- The Smart Mobility Initiative (Israel); and
- EcoMotion – The Global Community of Smart Mobility Innovators

TfNSW recommends that 'policy' and 'regulation' are topics which should be included in the Green Paper due to their importance in addressing the State-Federal relationship, and other market-supporting features. Policy sandboxes and other programs are already in action in NSW.

The scale of NSW's transport network and services (public and private), and the presence of transport in every other industry in NSW, makes it attractive for the market to use it as a base to pilot and scale on, which opens opportunities across Australia and internationally.

NSW is well positioned to be a leading location for digital and technology industries to support other industries, due to its highly skilled workforce, strong financial markets, innovation ecosystems and start-up accelerator community.

TfNSW supports the need to not only focus on skills development to support local market capabilities, but also connect different skills to form multi-talented teams that can progress from research and development to pilots and scaling.

TfNSW proposes that opportunities for local, real-world pilots could focus on skills development with local universities, innovation campuses and TAFEs involved in testing and learning. For example, TfNSW's Future Mobility Research and Testing Centre at Cudal could play a role in assisting with skills development, if supported with assistance for undergraduate and post-graduate internships.

See the NSW Future Transport Technology Roadmap, and contact us for more information, at the following link: https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/technology.