

Hi,

Further to and in relation to “Matters we must consider in our review” for the Cronulla and National Park Ferry Service

- The need for greater efficiency in the supply of services so as to reduce costs for the benefit of consumers and taxpayers:
This old boat is inefficient. When was the last time the operator invested in the company? You can't get “greater efficiency” if you don't invest in a company, and this doesn't mean painting the boat now and again. Investment for this route needs a new catamaran style boat, smaller and more regular services. Look at Norway, already investing in electric ferries. Because it's a family privately owned company they are not incentivised to invest.
- The protection of consumers from abuses of monopoly power in terms of prices, pricing policies and standards of service:
There is only one operator that function purely on a revenue basis and not servicing the community needs.
- The social impact of the determination or recommendation:
This service is really set-up as a tourist steamboat for tourist on the weekends that want to ride a slow and old picturesque boat that can fork out the cost for a one-off weekend trip. It does not run during times that are viable for a working commuter. Teenagers and adults are stranded without the opportunity to go out at night during the weekends.
- The impact of the determination or recommendation on the use of the public passenger transport network and the need to increase the proportion of travel undertaken by sustainable modes such as public transport
The cost to the government with locals driving is huge and could be offset by a better and more frequent use of the service. It's already way too expensive. For a commuter going to work and combining the train it ends up averaging \$100 a week to commute to the city. That's why everyone drives. Also, why is this service not linked to the Opal card?
- Standards of quality, reliability, and safety of the services (whether those standards are specified by legislation, agreement or otherwise)
Quality is low with an old boat, uncomfortable seating, noisy engine, slow and a service that is not convenient for the weekday working commuter
- The effect of the determination or recommendation on the level of Government funding
Ideally more patronage, faster commuting, affordable and more hours of operation