

Epping Social Infrastructure Needs Workshop 15/5/2017

Fact paper and questions prepared by Matt Mushalik (West Epping)

Population

Before planning social infrastructure we first need to look at population which determines the infrastructure needs.

88% of Sydney's population growth is driven by net overseas migration (NOM). Natural growth of the existing population in Sydney is very modest, 4.5 % over 20 years. In fact, population would peak in that time frame.

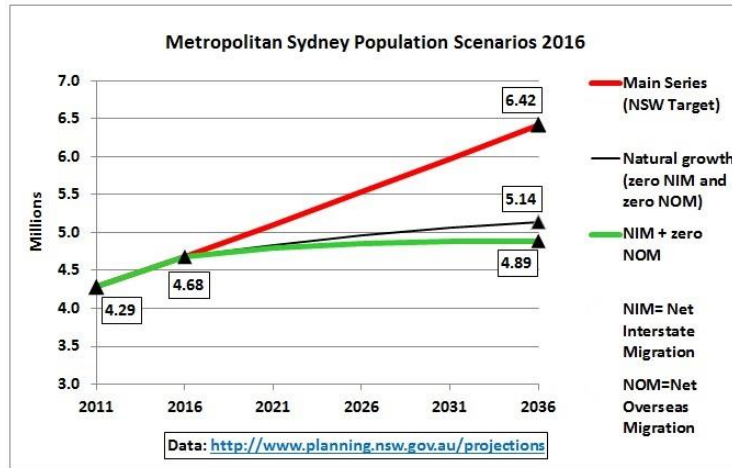


Fig 1: Sydney population scenarios

Fig 1 uses data from the NSW Planning Department. The zero NOM scenario is deliberately hidden in an Excel file so that it is not publicly discussed. The **target population growth** with NOM is 37% over 20 years. More details are on my website:

27 Feb 2017 Sydney would peak at 4.9 million with zero net overseas migration
<http://crudeoilpeak.info/sydney-would-peak-at-4-9-million-with-zero-net-overseas-migration>

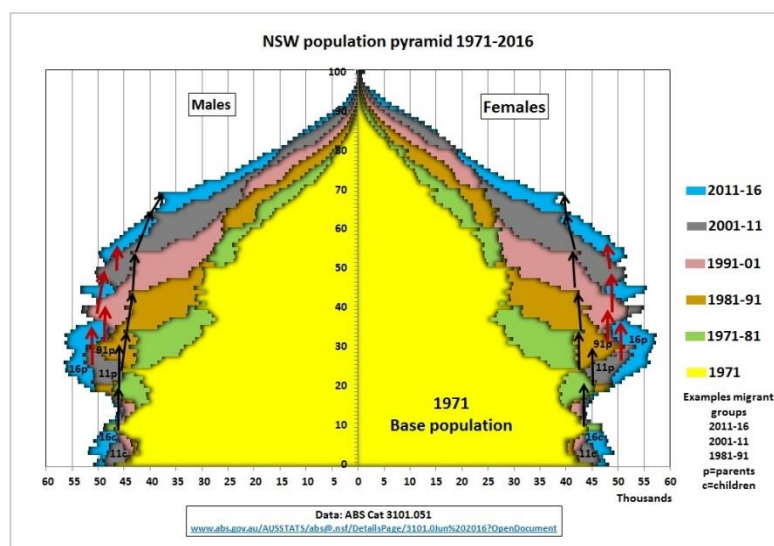


Fig 2: Population pyramid

Immigrants are fed sideways into the population pyramid. Fig 2 shows the immigration bulge (outside the black arrow line) is moving up the pyramid (red arrows) and leads to pre-mature aging compared to a naturally growing population.

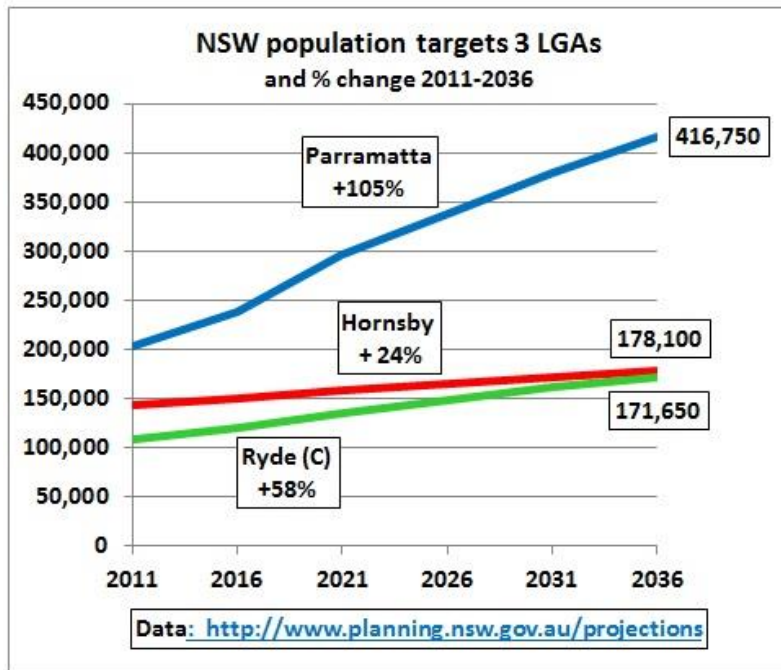


Fig 3: Parramatta, Hornsby and Ryde Council population targets

(A) Question: why should Parramatta carry a 2-4 times higher population growth load than Hornsby and Ryde?

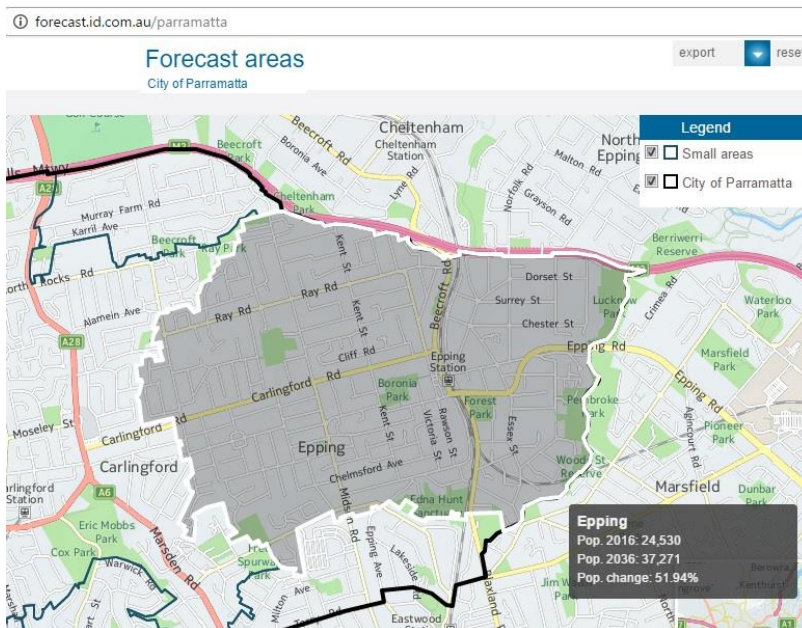


Fig 4: NSW bureaucrats force a 52% population growth on Epping

http://www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0007/188512/community_profile-eppping.pdf

Population in Epping is arbitrarily planned to increase by 52%.

(B) Question: Why should Epping carry a higher load than the average of 37%?

(C) Question: In which document on the web can we find the population pyramid for Parramatta and Epping for (i) the existing and (ii) the future population? Without this information we cannot plan infrastructure needs.

Housing affordability

High rise flats built everywhere are not a good environment to bring up children. The fertility will be low. But the problem now goes deeper as young couples cannot even afford expensive flats. The problem of unaffordable housing has been caused by rich immigrants and opportunistic investors who can safely speculate that there will be an unending demand for housing as a result of future immigration.

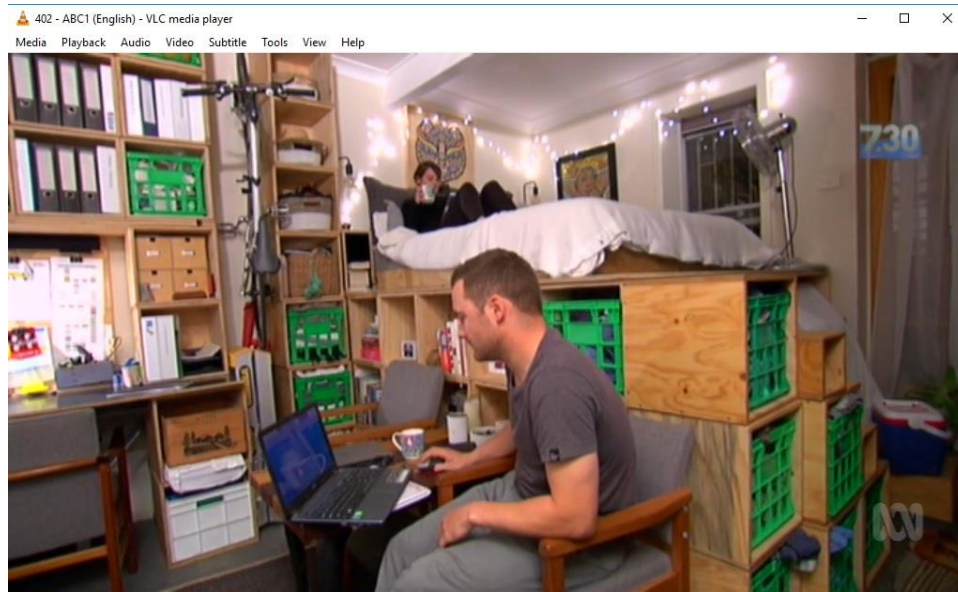
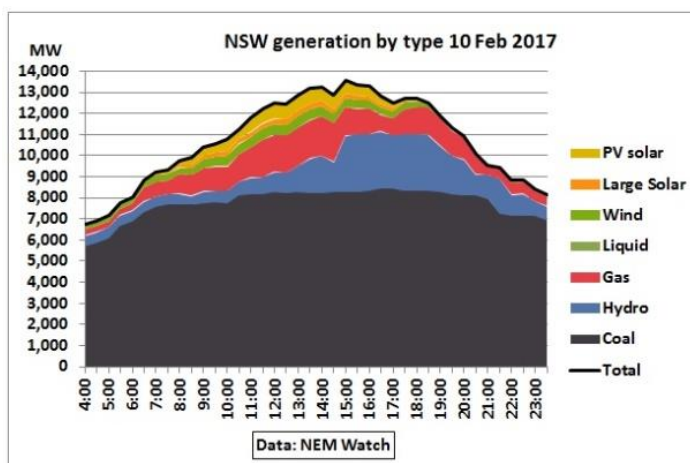


Fig 5: Young Sydney couple living between milk crates

- (D) Question: If Epping's population were to grow by 52% what will be the cost of different types of housing? Who then can actually live here? Which impact will that have on the population structure?
- (E) Question: When are we going to have the next financial crisis? How will that impact on debt, immigration and therefore population?

Resource limitations



In the next summer Sydney will experience more power shortages. This is because Hazelwood (1,600 MW) has shut down and energy guzzling NSW has to import electricity from Victoria (and also Queensland). There was already load shedding for the Tomago aluminium smelter on Feb 10th 2017. This is actually unacceptable. What is more important: a smelter or more air-conditioned residential towers for immigrants yet to arrive?

Fig 6: Coal and hydro were maxed out. The Colongra gas plant failed due to low gas pressure. More details on this multiple system failure are on my website:
NSW's privatized giveaway coal plant causes load shedding in extreme weather
<http://crudeoilpeak.info/nsws-privatized-giveaway-coal-plant-causes-load-shedding-in-extreme-weather>

The problem of power cuts goes deeper than the lack of investments to replace aging coal plants as a result of uncertain carbon pricing. Conventional gas production has peaked on the east coast as shown in this graph by the Chief Economist:

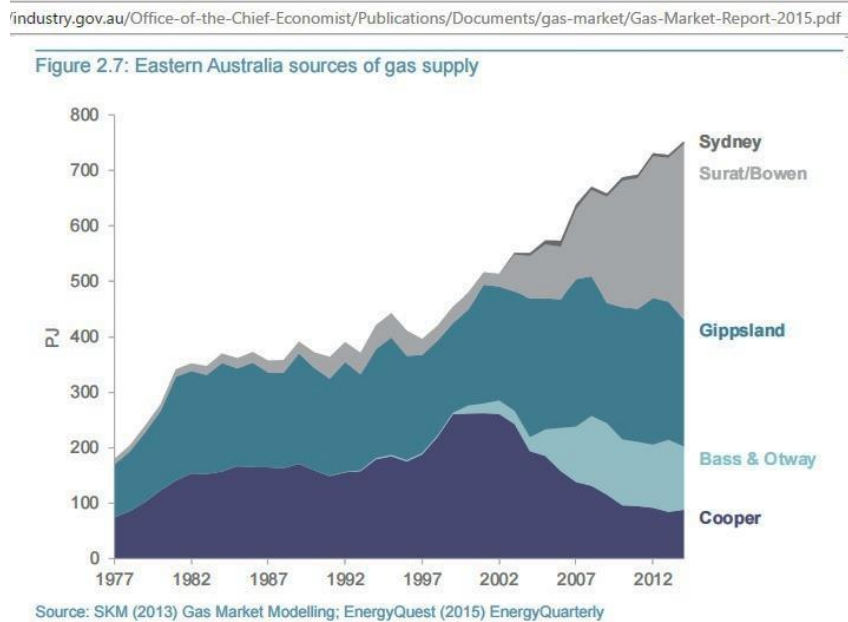


Fig 7: The Cooper peak caused east coast conventional gas to decline

The grey area is coal seam gas (from Queensland) most of which is squandered in LNG exports. This depletion will limit options to solve the problem of intermittent renewables.

Next oil crisis 2020



International Energy Agency Global oil supply to lag demand after 2020 unless new investments are approved soon

6 March 2017



HOUSTON – Global oil supply could struggle to keep pace with demand after 2020, risking a sharp increase in prices, unless new projects are approved soon, according to the latest five-year oil market forecast from the International Energy Agency.

<https://www.iea.org/newsroom/news/2017/march/global-oil-supply-to-lag-demand-after-2020-unless-new-investments-are-approved-so.html>

Australia's planning is energy illiterate since John Howard

Conclusion

The higher the population numbers the more problems we are going to have. It is very likely that physical and financial circumstances will stop unsustainable growth long before the projection period ends. There will be a lot of stranded assets like skyscrapers and road tunnels.

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