



Professor Mary O'Kane
Chair
Independent Planning Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Professor O'Kane

I am writing to request the Independent Planning Commission's advice on a rezoning review for a planning proposal that seeks to amend The Hills Local Environmental Plan 2012 in relation to planning controls applying to multiple sites in the Showground Station Precinct, Castle Hill.

The proponent requested a rezoning review because The Hills Shire Council did not support a request to prepare a planning proposal for the site. The Sydney Central City Planning Panel completed the rezoning review in October 2018 and recommended the planning proposal not be submitted for a Gateway determination because it did not demonstrate strategic merit.

The proponent has raised concerns alleging that certain members of the panel did not comply with the Planning Panels Code of Conduct in relation to conflicts of interest.

To address any perception that the rezoning review has not been impartially considered, I request the Commission undertake a further rezoning review and advise on whether the planning proposal should be submitted for a Gateway determination.

The Planning Panels Secretariat will provide you with the rezoning review request, supporting information and reports considered by Council and the panel. It would be open to the Commission to seek to be briefed on this matter by Council, the proponent or the Department's Sydney Region West team.

I request your advice be provided by 31 January 2019.

Should you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Mr Stuart Withington, Manager, Planning Panels Secretariat, at the Department on 8217 2061.

Yours sincerely

Marcus Ray
Deputy Secretary
Planning Services

27/11/2018