



6 December 2021

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

Dear Professor O'Kane

Westmead Catholic Community Education Campus (SSD-10383)

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (the Department) has completed its assessment of the merits of the application for the proposed Westmead Catholic Community Education Campus at 2 Darcy Road, Westmead (SSD-10383), lodged by Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta (the Applicant).

In accordance with clause 8A of the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 and section 4.5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), the application is referred to the Independent Planning Commission (the Commission) for determination, as the City of Parramatta Council (Council) has objected to the development.

The Department exhibited the application and accompanying Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) from 2 May 2020 and 29 May 2020 (28 days). During this period, the Department received a three submissions including an objection from Council, one comment from Cumberland Council and one public submission in support of the proposal. Additionally, the Department received advice from 13 public authorities.

The Applicant sought to address the issues raised during exhibition, by providing a Response to Submissions (RtS), submitted on 14 September 2020. In response to further concerns raised by public authorities, the Department and Council, the Applicant submitted supplementary RtS (SRtS) between December 2020 and April 2021.

The Applicant then submitted an amended proposal on 7 September 2021, in response to the remaining concerns from the Department, Council and public authorities. The Department formally exhibited the amended proposal between 10 September 2021 and 23 September 2021. The Department received five submissions comprising one from Council (maintaining objection), one from Cumberland Council and three comments from members of public. The Department also received advice from 10 public authorities.

The Applicant submitted a further RtS (following exhibition of the amended proposal) on 14 October 2021 and SRtS in November 2021.

In assessing the merits of the project, the Department considered the environmental, social and economic impacts of the proposal, the submissions received on the EIS and RtS, relevant environmental planning instruments, the suitability of the site for the project and the public interest, in accordance with the EP&A Act.



Based on its assessment, the Department considers that the project is approvable subject to the recommended conditions of consent.

A copy of the Department's assessment report and all other publicly made documents relevant for the Commission's consideration is available on the Department's major project website:
<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/25716>

For any further information or to arrange a briefing, please contact Karen Harragon – Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments on (02) 9274 6358.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Gainsford'.

06/12/2021

David Gainsford
Deputy Secretary Assessment & Systems Performance
Planning and Assessment