



Ms Natasha Harras
Town Planner
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
23-33 Bridge Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Ms Harras

RE: Channel 9 Willoughby MP 10_0198 - Concept Plan for Residential Development with Ancillary Uses and Open Space

Thank you for email on 8 October inviting the Department of Education and Communities to comment on the preferred project plan for the Channel 9 Studios in Willoughby.

The Department has reviewed the Response to Submissions and Preferred Project Report Concept Plan Application, dated 10 October 2013. The Department understands that the preferred project plan reduces the number of units from 585 units to 450 units.

The report states that the Department is creating an additional 20 new classrooms in 2014. This is incorrect, and reference to this should be removed from the report. The classrooms that were announced in the recent State budget in surrounding local schools are to manage current and future projected enrolments for these schools. These classrooms do not account for the future proposed increase in enrolments that will be generated by the proposed development of an additional 450 units at the Channel 9 site.

The Department estimates that the proposed development of the Channel 9 site will require an additional 2 primary school classrooms and 0.5 additional high school classrooms to accommodate the projected future enrolments.

While the submission quotes a 2007 Planning System Circular as being the most recent policy on the NSW State Government policy on funding of educational facilities, more recently, the State Government has identified in the White Paper that they intend to introduce the **Regional Infrastructure Contributions Bill**. The purpose of this bill will be to seek contributions on brownfield sites for state infrastructure including schools.

With a development of this size the Department of Education and Communities requests that provision be made to seek contributions from the developer to contribute to the cost of providing additional 2.5 permanent classrooms in nearby schools.

I assure you that the Department is continually working to address and plan for future levels of government school utilisation in Sydney's lower north shore.

Please contact Suzanne Clarke-Nash, Regional Asset Planner, Northern Sydney Region on 9561 8626 or email suzanne.clarkenash@det.nsw.edu.au if you require any further assistance with this matter.

Yours sincerely

Tony McCabe
Director, Planning and Delivery
29 October 2013





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