

# Review of Environmental Factors Decision Statement (Major)

## Orange Grove Public School upgrade

Table 1: REF Details

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Document Name                   | <b>Review of Environmental Factors<br/>Orange Grove Public School upgrade</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| REF Date                        | 15/06/2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| REF Version No.                 | 9                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Mitigation Measures             | 15/06/2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Portal Reference No.            | P5-2026-64                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Location                        | Orange Grove Public School, 2-8 Perry Street Lilyfield                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Summary of Proposed Activity    | Redevelopment of existing government school, including partial demolition, new building and structures, landscaping, sport and play spaces and associated supporting infrastructure, tree removal and earthworks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Prepared by                     | DFP Planning, Henry Burnett                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Assessments Manager Endorsement | <p>I certify that I have reviewed and endorsed the contents of the REF document and the Decision Statement and, to the best of my knowledge, it is in accordance with the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>, the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021</i> (EP&amp;A Regulation) and the Guidelines issued under section 170 of the EP&amp;A Regulation and the information it contains is neither false nor misleading.</p> <br>Sasa Takagi, R/Manager, Assessments |

The Review of Environmental Factors (**REF**) has been assessed and considered in accordance with the requirements of sections 1.7, 5.5, 5.7 and 5.10 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (**EP&A Act**), sections 171 and 171A of the *Environmental Planning and*

*Assessment Regulation 2021 (EP&A Regulation)* and the Guidelines approved under section 170 EP&A Regulation.

In considering the activity and for the purpose of attaining the objects of the EP&A Act relating to the protection and enhancement of the environment, the NSW Department of Education (**the department**) has examined and taken into account environmental impacts in a manner that is proportionate to the nature and risk of the activity, as addressed in the REF, including any necessary mitigation or management measures.

The REF is supported by specialist investigations and studies that have assessed the following matters and key impacts:

- Non-Aboriginal Heritage
- Contamination
- Noise
- Design Quality

The REF provides an environmental assessment of the activity against the requirements of Division 5.1 of the EP&A Act and the EP&A Regulation, including but not limited to:

- Guidelines for Division 5.1 Assessments (**the Guidelines**), published by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (**DPHI**)

Notification of the activity occurred in accordance with s3.38 of *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (TI SEPP)* and having regard to:

- the Stakeholder and Community Participation Plan published by the Department of Education.

The REF was publicly exhibited on the NSW Planning Portal for 21 days from 14 April 2026 until 4 May 2026. Written notice was provided to neighbouring and nearby property owners and/or occupants in vicinity of the proposal. Inner West Council was provided written notice of the proposed activity on 13 April 2026, as well as relevant State government agencies and service providers on 13 April 2026.

Nine submissions were received during the exhibition period, comprising three submissions from government agencies, and six submissions from the community. No submission was received from council. There were no late submissions.

The activity has considered the issues raised in submissions received during the consultation period and these submissions have been addressed in the assessment of the proposed activity. As the determining authority, the department is satisfied that appropriate consultation has been undertaken, having regard to the relevant stakeholder and community participation plans.

This determination is made following consideration of the matters in sections 1.7, 5.5, 5.7 and 5.10 of the EP&A Act, and section 171 and section 171A of the EP&A Regulation. This determination is also made following consideration of the design quality of the development, evaluated in accordance with the design quality principles set out in schedule 8 of the TI SEPP and the design principles set out in the Design Guide for Schools published by the NSW Government Architect.

The REF has considered the potential impacts arising from the proposal, including any impacts on critical habitat and threatened species, populations and ecological communities and their habitats in accordance with Part 7 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (**BC Act**). The REF has also assessed the need for referral to the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (**EPBC Act**).

The REF identifies a range of environmental outcomes and safeguards as mitigation measures that would be required to avoid or reduce environmental impacts. The mitigation measures for the proposal are included at Appendix 1 of the REF and amended measures are listed in Attachment 1.

The mitigation measures have been amended to:

- ensure the archival recording report to be reviewed by and to the satisfaction of the DoE Heritage team prior to construction
- ensure heritage interpretation plans and proposal, and any future design changes are reviewed by and to the satisfaction of the DoE Heritage team during detailed design and construction.
- capture the cumulative impacts from future works under a separate planning pathway within the site.

As an authorised person on behalf of the department who did not prepare the REF, I discharge the duty as a determining authority under Division 5.1 of the EP&A Act and conclude that based on the REF document and other information provided:

- the proposed activity is likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore an Environmental Impact Statement is not required;
- the proposed activity will not be carried out in a declared area of outstanding biodiversity value and is not likely to significantly affect threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats or impact biodiversity values, meaning a Species Impact Statement and/or Biodiversity Development Assessment Report is not required;
- the proposed activity is not within or nearby to a wilderness area (within the meaning of the *Wilderness Act 1987*) and therefore will not have an effect on any wilderness area;
- the proposed activity may proceed as it responds to the ongoing demand for educational facilities in this locality;
- mitigation measures are required to eliminate, minimise or manage environmental impacts and have been addressed at **Appendix 1** of the REF and at **Attachment 1** of this Decision Statement, and endorsed as amended by the Assessments Manager at **Table 1** of this Decision Statement; and
- the proposed activity is not likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance, or on the environment of Commonwealth land, and therefore referral to the Minister under the EPBC Act is not required.

Having regard to the above, and having the power to exercise the functions of the determining authority under Part 5, Division 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and Part 8, Division 1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation), the proposal as described in the REF at Orange Grove Public School, 2-8 Perry Street

Lilyfield is **APPROVED** on behalf of the department and may proceed without the need for further assessment, subject to compliance with and implementation of the following:

- The REF and associated appendices;
- The Mitigation Measures included at **Appendix 1** of the REF and the amended measures listed in **Attachment 1**; and
- All other relevant statutory requirements, including approvals, licences, notifications, permits, and authorisations.



**Yvette Buchli**

Executive Director, Planning and Assessments  
1 July 2026

## Attachment 1

### Amended Measures

(amendments and deletions in ~~strike through~~ and additions in **underlined bold text**)

#### H4\* Archival Recording (**Prior to Construction**)

An archival recording of OGPS should be undertaken ~~prior to the commencement of works~~ for the whole of the project **site prior to the commencement of REF scope of works**. The recording should be conducted in accordance with the appropriate Heritage NSW guidelines for archival recordings. The archival recording report must be reviewed **by and to the satisfaction of the** DoE Heritage prior to finalisation and submission.

#### H7\* Heritage Interpretation (**During Detailed Design** and Construction)

To mitigate the impact of Building J, provide heritage interpretation along the Perry Street boundary which interprets the history of the school and identifies the significance of Building A, B and D. Heritage interpretation plans and proposals must be reviewed **by and to the satisfaction of the** DoE Heritage.

#### H8\* Heritage Advice (**During Detailed design and** Construction)

**For any design changes proposed during detailed design and construction the DoE Heritage team should be notified and** a suitably qualified and experienced heritage expert from DoE Heritage should provide ongoing heritage advice **whenever design changes relevant to the heritage of Buildings A, B and D are proposed during the detailed design and** during the construction phase of the upgrades to OGPS with the aim of reducing heritage impacts.