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15 December 2011

Ms Rachel Cumming
Regional Director Western Region
Department of Planning
PO Box 58
DUBBO NSW 2830



Dear Ms Cumming

Re: Planning Proposal – Temporary Workers Accommodation

On 7 December 2011 Council resolved to prepare a Planning Proposal for gateway determination for Temporary Workers Accommodation.

The Planning Proposal has been prepared in response to the increasing level of enquiry and applications for temporary workers accommodation for mine related workers within the LGA. The expansion of the mining industry has already resulted in the Department of Planning and Infrastructure approving a number of new developments which are already placing pressure on accommodation both short and longer term in the region.

Legal advice obtained by Council in relation to the definition of temporary workers accommodation suggests that it would fit under the existing definition of "tourist and visitor accommodation". Despite this, it is clear that this form of development as has been experienced in Queensland and more recently western and northern NSW (Blaney and Narrabri) is not typical of tourist and visitor accommodation as we know it. The increase in this specific type of development warrants a specific definition and Council will be making representation in this regard. At this stage, however, Council seeks to clarify for both staff, developers and the community precisely what this land use is and where it should be located to minimize the social and economic impact on the existing towns and villages.

To this end please find enclosed:

- Council Report and Minute from 7 December 2011
- Request for initial Gateway Determination sign by the General Manager
- A copy of the Planning Proposal outlining the amendments required to the planning instruments.

Should you require further information please contact me on 0263 782850.

Yours Sincerely

LIZ DENSLEY
TEAM LEADER STRATEGIC PLANNING