

Mr Wayne Wallis
General Manager
Port Stephens Council
PO Box 42
RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324

Dear Mr Wallis

Planning proposal PP_2018_PORTS_005_00 to amend Port Stephens Local Environmental Plan 2013

I am writing in response to Council's request for a Gateway determination under section 3.34(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) in respect of the planning proposal to permit a service station at 2A and 2B Lavis Lane, Williamtown.

As delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, I have now determined that the planning proposal should proceed subject to the conditions in the enclosed Gateway determination.

I have also agreed, as delegate of the Secretary, the planning proposal's inconsistencies with section 9.1 Directions; 1.2 Rural Zones, 1.5 Rural Lands and 4.1 Acid Sulfate Soils are justified in accordance with the terms of the Direction. No further approval is required in relation to these Directions.

Council will still need to obtain the agreement of the Department of Planning and Environment's Secretary to comply with the requirements of relevant section 9.1 Directions; 3.5 Development Near Licensed Aerodromes, 4.3 Flood Prone Land, 4.4 Planning for Bushfire Protection and 5.10 Implementation of Regional Plans. Council should ensure this occurs prior to the plan being made.

It is noted that Council has requested to be authorised as the local plan-making authority. I have considered the nature of Council's planning proposal and have conditioned the Gateway for Council to be authorised as the local plan-making authority.

The amending Local Environmental Plan (LEP) is to be finalised within 9 months of the date of the Gateway determination. Council should aim to commence the exhibition of the planning proposal as soon as possible. Council's request to draft and finalise the LEP should be made directly to Parliamentary Counsel's Office 6 weeks prior to the projected publication date. A copy of the request should be forwarded to the Department of Planning and Environment.

The state government is committed to reducing the time taken to complete LEPs by tailoring the steps in the process to the complexity of the proposal, and by providing clear and publicly available justification for each plan at an early stage. In order to meet these commitments, the Minister may take action under section 3.32(2)(d) of the Act if the time frames outlined in this determination are not met.

Should you have any further enquiries about this matter, I have arranged for Mr Ben Holmes to assist you. Mr Holmes can be contacted on 4904 2709.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monica Gibson', with a stylized, cursive script.

13/5/2019

Monica Gibson
Director Regions, Hunter
Planning Services

Encl: Gateway determination
Authorised plan-making reporting template