

26 February 2016

Katrine O'Flaherty
Department of Planning
PO Box 1226
Newcastle NSW 2300

Dear Katrine

Subject: Planning Proposal - Biodiversity Offsets - Request for Gateway Determination

Council resolved on 14 September 2015, to prepare a draft amendment to Lake Macquarie Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2014. The draft amendment included a number of administrative changes to the current LEP. One of these issues related to a proposed new clause to allow the creation of biodiversity offset sites that could not be subdivided under the current Lake Macquarie LEP 2014 provisions, where the lot does not meet the minimum lot size provisions.

Council had previously requested a Gateway Determination for this amendment, however the Department of Planning and Environment (DoPE) advised to separate the biodiversity offset clause as this may require more time and consideration. DoPE has issued a Gateway Determination allowing the administrative amendment to proceed. Refer to PP_2015_010_00.

A separate planning proposal has now been prepared for biodiversity offsets, which is attached. Council requests a Gateway Determination in relation to this planning proposal.

Should you require further information, please contact me on 4921 0298.

Yours faithfully



Angel Troke
Strategic Landuse Planner
Integrated Planning Department

Our Ref: F2016/00440 Your Ref: