



Mr Brian Bell
General Manager
Lake Macquarie City Council
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Contact: Dylan Meade
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Our ref: 13/07914

Dear Mr Bell

Planning Proposal PP_2011_LAKEM_008_00– Gateway Determination alteration and extension

I refer to Council's request of 7 May 2013 seeking an extension of time to complete the Planning Proposal PP_2011_LAKEM_008_00 to rezone land at Transfield Avenue, Edgeworth.

I have determined as the delegate of the Minister, in accordance with section 56(7) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, to amend the Gateway Determination dated 1 August 2011 for PP_2011_LAKEM_008_00.

The Gateway Determination is amended by extending the time for the completion of the Planning Proposal by an additional 9 months. The Planning Proposal is now due for completion by 8 November 2013.

The Gateway Determination is also amended through a change to condition 1, which required Council to resolve environmental offsets issues prior to public exhibition. It is noted a number of options to resolve biodiversity offsets have been explored, and Council is encouraged to continue negotiations on a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA). However, considering the strategic location of the site and its fragmented ownership, it is not necessary for the VPA to be signed before the draft plan is exhibited.

Council is encouraged to include details relating to options for resolution of biodiversity issues in the public exhibition material.

Council is requested to now commence public exhibition and seek comments from Office of Environment and Heritage as part of the public exhibition process.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Dylan Meade of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's Newcastle Office on 4904 2718.

Yours sincerely

Neil McGaffin
Executive Director
Rural and Regional Planning