

Our ref: PP\_2017\_GOULB\_004\_04/IRF20/4997

Mr Warwick Bennett General Manager Goulburn Mulwaree Council By email: <u>council@goulburn.nsw.gov.au</u>

Attention: Nick Thistleton, Senior Strategic Planner

**Dear Warwick** 

## Planning proposal PP\_2017\_GOULB\_004\_04

I refer to the updated planning proposal PP\_2017\_GOULB\_004\_04 for rezoning of land at 37 Ross Street, Bradfordville to facilitate the Goulburn Health Hub. I note that the proposal has been revised in response to Agency submissions and Council has requested a six-month extension of the Gateway determination to exhibit and finalise the planning proposal.

As you are aware, in July 2020 the Premier announced the Planning System Acceleration Program to reform the NSW planning system. The reforms, which streamline and simplify the planning system, will unlock productivity, keep people in jobs and support sustained economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

A key part of the reform program involves delivering improved processes for determining and finalising planning proposals. To ensure the new system achieves these outcomes we must first clear the backlog of planning proposals that have remained under consideration for an extended period. Going forward our intention is that planning proposals should generally take 1 year and no more than 2 years to complete. This has been shown to be achievable in many cases where applications are supported by enough evidence to justify strategic and site-specific merit, and where proposals are aligned to a strong strategic planning framework, such as Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement.

Given the time elapsed since the Gateway Determination was issued, I have decided not to extend the timeframe. This does not mean that Council cannot proceed to exhibition and finalisation of the planning proposal. I appreciate that Council is progressing the proposal and encourage Council to finalise this matter as soon as practicable. If you have any questions in relation to this matter, I have arranged for Mr George Curtis to assist you. Mr Curtis can be contacted on 4247 1824.

Yours sincerely

4 November 2020

Sarah Lees Director, Southern Region Local and Regional Planning