

Appendix C – Consideration of Newcastle LEP 2003 Aims and Objectives

Aim 1

To respect, protect and complement the natural and cultural heritage, the identity and image, and the sense of place of the City of Newcastle.

Objectives

The objectives are to:

- (a) respect and build upon positive aspects of local character and amenity, and*
- (b) contribute positively to the public domain, namely its urban streetscapes and open spaces, or its rural and natural landscapes, and*
- (c) conserve the environmental heritage of the City of Newcastle, and*
- (d) conserve the heritage significance of the existing built fabric, relics, settings and views associated with identified heritage items and heritage conservation areas, and*
- (e) ensure that archaeological sites and places of Aboriginal heritage significance are conserved, and*
- (f) protect places and structures which have the potential to have heritage significance but have not been identified as heritage items, and*
- (g) ensure that nominated heritage conservation areas retain their heritage significance.*

Comment: This aim of LEP 2003 is addressed in the discussion of Part 4 of the assessment report.

Aim 2

To conserve and manage the natural and built resources of the City of Newcastle for present and future generations, and to apply the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) in the City of Newcastle.

Objectives

The objectives are to:

- (a) protect and enhance biodiversity, and*
- (b) minimise the use of non-renewable resources and optimise the use of renewable resources, and*
- (c) minimise, and where possible eliminate, waste and pollution, and*
- (d) rehabilitate soil, water and vegetation, where damaged by past activities, and*
- (e) address natural hazards and other risks such as flooding, bushfire, mine subsidence, landslip, coastal inundation, soil and groundwater contamination, acid sulphate soils and the like, and*
- (f) ensure buildings are designed to be capable of being readily adapted for reuse for one or more purposes.*

Comment: The applicant has provided significant information concerning the existing state of the environment of the site and its surroundings and has provided comprehensive details of the measures which would be put in place as part of the proposed development of the site to both protect the environmentally sensitive areas of the site and to remediate those parts of the site which have been identified as containing contamination. It is considered that, on balance, this aim of LEP 2003 has been addressed.

Aim 3

To contribute to the economic well being of the community in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

Objectives

The objectives are to:

- (a) where possible create sustainable employment opportunities, and*
- (b) contribute to a greater degree of economic and employment self-sufficiency in the City of Newcastle, its urban centres and its neighbourhoods, as well as in the Hunter Region, and*
- (c) not jeopardise the ongoing operation and potential of the port of Newcastle, the adjacent industrial lands and the associated significant freight transport undertakings, and*
- (d) reinforce the roles of established urban centres in their present hierarchy, comprising the city centre, the district centres and the local centres, as generally described in the Newcastle Urban Strategy, and*
- (e) contribute positively to urban centres being focal points for employment, particularly in the service sectors of the economy, and*
- (f) provide for home based businesses that are compatible with the character and amenity of the neighbourhood in which they are to be located, and*
- (g) take advantage of and contribute to those locations not in urban centres, which are valuable to the economy of the City of Newcastle and the Hunter Region.*

Comment: The proposed development would provide a substantial employment base in the Newcastle area and contribute significantly to the local economy. Notwithstanding that the proposed development would most likely have an impact on the viability of other smaller outlets in the Wallsend area, on balance, the proposal would provide a significant economic and employment boost to the locality, thus achieving the aim of LEP 2003.