

RECORD OF SITE INSPECTION

NORTHERN REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL

DETAILS OF SITE INSPECTION

DATE	Friday 10 March 2023, 2:30 – 3:30
LOCATION	15 Watson Street and 4 Rawson Street, Bellingen

SUBJECT MATTER

PPSNTH-183 – Bellingen - DA2022/00130 - 15 Watson Street & 4 Rawson Street BELLINGEN - residential flat building comprising 18 affordable dwellings

PANEL MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE	Dianne Leeson, Stephen Gow and Michael Wright
APOLOGIES	Dominic King, Daniel Walsh
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	None

OTHER ATTENDEES

COUNCIL ASSESSMENT STAFF	Michael Coulter
OTHER	Stephen Ellitt – Applicant (RFBI) Bill McGarry, Simon Waterworth - GeoLINK

OBSERVED

- Site observed from Watson Street, Rawson Street and vacant/mowed land at rear of site; proximity to local creek
- Surrounding land use context and streetscape low density residential along Watson Street, local parks and creek environs, Catholic church and St Marys Primary School
- Proximity to main street and shopping centre
- Construction/demolition works on adjacent Stage One site
- Existing low rise buildings to be demolished
- View corridor to northwest hills from approx. 14 Watson Street

DISCUSSED

- Proposed use as affordable rental housing with RFBI as a community housing provider; affordable housing shortages within the area; RFBI grant funding; alternative site potential
- Site is adjacent to (ie not in) the conservation zone
- Proposed height of building and visual impact; height relative to Stage One
- Landscape treatment fronting Watson Street; complimentary species selection to conservation precinct
- Flood planning levels

- Car parking and provision within Stage One basement; no basement parking in Stage Two due to flood affected nature; SEPP (Housing) 2021 requirements
- RFBI local community bus service

STATUS

- Submissions period closed 6 March 2023. Five submissions received. Council preparing assessment report
- Panel requested renders submitted for Stage One to demonstrate materials/design; landscape plans for Watson Street frontage; scaled drawings/marked up images indicating building height when viewed from 14 Watson Street
- Anticipated determination April 2023