



COUNCIL ASSESSMENT REPORT

NORTHERN REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL

PANEL REFERENCE & DA NUMBER	PPSNTH-189 – DA2022 - 901		
PROPOSAL	Staged Alterations and Additions to Private Hospital		
ADDRESS	Lot 1 DP 1225449 86-94 Lake Road Port Macquarie		
APPLICANT	Erilyan Pty Ltd		
OWNER	HCOA Operations (Australia) Pty Ltd		
DA LODGEMENT DATE	18 October 2022		
APPLICATION TYPE	Development Application - Integrated		
REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT CRITERIA	Section 2.19(1) and Clause 5 of Schedule 6 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021 declares the proposal regionally significant development as the capital investment value is more than \$5 million and involves a health services facility (hospital).		
CIV	\$25.45 million (ex GST)		
CLAUSE 4.6 REQUESTS	NIL		
	 State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021 State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021 State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning 		
KEY SEPP/LEP	 Systems) 2021 State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production) 2021 State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021 		
	 State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Environmental Plan 2011 		
TOTAL & UNIQUE SUBMISSIONS KEY	9 unique submissions received, including some with multiple signatories.		

ISSUES IN	Key issues raised:		
SUBMISSIONS	 Current shortage of parking Inadequacy of proposed parking and assessment report Access, congestion, illegal parking in adjacent streets Works on adjoining land Easements for car parking, telephone and electricity Construction impacts - access, noise, dust Privacy/overlooking 		
DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION	 Architectural Plans Arborists Report Acoustic Report Access Report Bushfire Impact Assessment BCA Report Civil, Stormwater Package Cost Report Environmental Report Landscape Package Waste Management Report Traffic Impact Assessment Geotechnical Report Statement of Environmental Effects Survey Plan Land Contamination - Targeted Asbestos Koala Development Assessment Report Arborist Report addendum Additional Information Cover Letter - Think Planners Draft Construction Staging & Management Plan 		
SPECIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS (S7.24)	NIL		
RECOMMENDATION	Approval, subject to conditions.		
DRAFT CONDITIONS TO APPLICANT	Yes		
SCHEDULED MEETING DATE	14 November 2023		
PLAN VERSION	Health Projects International PMP2-DA dated 13 September 2023		
PREPARED BY	Vanessa Penfold		
DATE OF REPORT	3 November 2023		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The development application (DA2022 - 901.1) seeks consent for staged alterations and additions to the existing Port Macquarie Private Hospital (health services facility).

The subject site known as Lot 1 DP 1225449, 86-94 Lake Road Port Macquarie Port Macquarie ('the site') has an area of 17,329m2. The site has 2 road frontages, Lake Road and Parker Street. There are 5 existing vehicle access points including 2 driveways off Lake Road, and 3 driveways off Parker Street. There are 126 car parking spaces. Total on site car parking includes 15 spaces shared with 'The Grange' consulting rooms at 82 Lake Road.

The site was first occupied as a hospital around 1979. The buildings on site have been subject to various alterations and additions over time to provide additional in-patient beds, day surgery facilities, operating theatres, rehabilitation facilities, hydrotherapy pool and parking. The hospital site had formerly included the adjacent building to the north known as 'The Grange'. The former Port Macquarie Eye Care building site and car parking, with access off Parker Street, has been amalgamated with the hospital site and occupied by the Pre admission clinic.

The current proposal includes:

- Alterations to the building at the Lake Road frontage including new first floor administration area and 5 medical suites, medical imaging, café and pharmacy, signage, reconstruction of part of the existing front car park and construction of a new staff car parking at the south western corner of the site containing 19 new spaces.
- Alterations to the building at the Parker Street frontage including new ground floor and first additions, 28 new hospital beds.
- Removal of 10 beds through the refurbishment of existing rooms that contain 2 beds, resulting in a total of 90 beds.
- 2 new operating theatres.
- Demolition of the Pre admission building and existing car park off Parker Street and construction of 44 car parking spaces at the north eastern corner of the site.
- A new pedestrian pathway connecting the Parker Street car park with the main entrance off Lake Road.
- Provision of a total 159 on site car parking spaces at completion of Stage 1, resulting in 33 additional spaces on site. Total on site car parking includes 15 spaces shared with 'The Grange" consulting rooms at 82 Lake Road.

The works are proposed in two stages. The hospital will continue to be operational during the works.

The application is referred to the Northern Planning Panel ('the Panel') as the development is 'regionally significant development', pursuant to Section 2.19(1) and Clause (5)(b) of Schedule 6 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021 as the proposal is development for a health services facility (hospital) with a Capital Investment Value over \$5 million.

A briefing was held with the Panel on 14 March 2023 and key issues were discussed, including parking, traffic, noise, ecology and works shown on adjoining land.

An assessment report was presented to the Northern Region Planning Panel meeting on 2 August 2023. The report recommended partial development consent for Stage 1 of the development subject to provision of a new car parking area in the north east corner of the site shown as Stage 2 work. The remaining Stage 2 works were not supported due to a shortfall of 16 off street car parking spaces and the likely impacts on the amenity of the precinct.

The Panel deferred the determination to allow for the matters listed below to be addressed as follows:

- Confirmation of on-site car parking requirements for each stage and analysis to justify the proposed number and location of spaces, including during construction.
- Draft Construction Management Plans, including staging and separation of work zones and operational elements of the hospital and adjoining development.
- Clarification of proposed final staff and consultant numbers.
- Landscaping treatment generally, but particularly along the southern boundary, Lake Road and Parker Street and car parks.

Amended plans and supporting documents were submitted on 14 September 2023 in response to the matters raised by the Panel and are considered in this report (Section 4.4).

A copy of the response prepared by Think Planners, on behalf of the applicant, is provided at **Attachment J.**

The site is located in the R1 General Residential zone pursuant to Clause 2.2 of the *Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Environmental Plan 2011* ('LEP 2011'). Development for the purpose of health services facility (hospital) is permissible with consent in the R1 zone.

The proposal is considered generally consistent with various objects of the EP&A Act and is considered consistent with broader public interest given the benefit associated with additional health care facilities include 2 additional operating theatres and 18 additional beds.

There were no concurrence requirements from agencies for the proposal. The application is integrated development pursuant to Section 4.46 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* ('EP&A Act'). A bushfire safety authority has been issued under Section 100b Rural Fires Act 1997 for the works.

A referral to Essential Energy pursuant to *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021* ('Transport and Infrastructure SEPP') raised potential safety issues due to proximity to exiting electrical infrastructure being a substation on the southern side of the building and underground mains that serve the substation. An extract from advice received 18 November 2022 is provided below.

'As the plans provided do not show the distances from Essential Energy's infrastructure and the development, there may be a safety risk.

- A distance of 2 metres from the nearest part of the development to Essential Energy's underground infrastructure (measured horizontally) is required to ensure that there is no safety risk.
- A clearance distance of 3 metres from the nearest part of the development to Essential Energy's pad mounted substation (measured horizontally) is required and no gas or ventilation system should be permitted within 6 metres of Essential Energy's pad mounted substation.

A new substation is proposed adjacent to Parker Street and the plans amended to show compliant setback to the new building and existing gas supply. Further detail will be required to confirm adequate protection from accidental damage to the substation.

The applicant has advised that the underground mains that traverse the south western corner of the site will be made redundant upon commissioning of the new substation. This information has been provided to Essential Energy. The matters have been addressed by suitable conditions of consent.

Jurisdictional prerequisites to the grant of consent imposed by the following controls have been satisfied including:

- Section 4.6 of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP for consideration of whether the land is contaminated;
- Section 2.48(2) of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP in relation to electricity distribution.

The application was placed on public exhibition from 3 November 2022 to 2 December 2022 with 6 unique submissions received, some with multiple signatories.

The submissions raised issues relating to traffic and car parking, easements (access, parking and services) works on adjoining property, disruption potential noise and dust impacts during construction. These issues are considered further in this report.

Amended plans and supporting documents were submitted on 14 September 2023 and the application was re-notified from 22 September to 8 October 2023 to those people who had made a submission during the first notification period. Three unique submissions were received including two with multiple signatories.

The issues raised in submissions have been addressed through amended plans and specialist reports and/or assessment by specialist Council staff. In particular, a revised Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) report was submitted (Traffix, September 2023). The report concludes that adequate on-site parking will be provided.

Having considered the matters under Section 4.15(1) of the EP&A Act, the site is considered suitable for the proposed development and the proposal adequately addresses relevant planning controls. The development is not considered to be contrary to the public's interest and will not result a significant adverse social, environmental or economic impact.

Furthermore, following a detailed assessment of the proposal, pursuant to Section 4.16(1)(a) of the *EP&A Act*, DA2022 - 901.1 is recommended for approval, subject to conditions contained at **Attachment A** of this report.

1. THE SITE AND LOCALITY

1.1 The Site

- The site is 17,329m2 in area and has street frontage to Lake Road to the west and Parker Street to the east (see Figure 1).
- The site has been occupied by a private hospital since 1979 and the buildings on site have undergone alterations and additions over time.
- The current hospital includes 72 in-patient beds, 6 operating theatres, and out-patient services (that do not require overnight stay) including day surgery facilities, hydrotherapy pool, rehabilitation services and kiosk/coffee shop.
- Vehicle access and visitor parking is available at each street frontage. The hospital has 3 parking areas on site that provide 126 spaces, 15 are shared with the adjoining property via an easement that benefits 82 Lake Road known as 'The Grange'.
- Service vehicles enter and leave via Lake Road with the exception of gas servicing from Parker Street.
- The site is identified as bushfire prone land.
- The site is not identified as flood prone.
- Public transport (bus) service and shelter is available on Lake Road.



Figure 1 - Aerial photo of site and locality.

1.2 The Locality

- The site is located within a residential zone and the surrounding area contains established low density residential housing and a mix of health and medical related uses.
- Pedestrian and vehicle access is available from Lake Road and Parker Street. The site
 is located on a bus route and approximately 1.5km the Port Macquarie town centre.
- Surrounding development includes health services facilities to the north known as 'The Grange' and 'The Hermitage' medical suites. Many residential properties in the vicinity have been converted to consulting rooms.
- Development adjoining the southern boundary and opposite the site on Parker Street include residential villas and detached dwellings.
- Bellevue Gardens retirement village is located to the north-east of the site off the northern end of Parker Street.
- Ramsay Health also operate day surgery facilities at the Coolenberg Day Surgery premises to the north of the hospital at 60 Lake Road, corner Hill Street, and a health services facility to the south east at Savoy Street, corner of Parker Street.



Photograph 1 - Lake Road frontage looking south, entry driveway on left.



Photograph 2 - Lake Road car park looking south.



Photograph 3 - Main hospital entry portico, Lake Road frontage.



Photograph 4 - Service areas adjacent to southern boundary looking east.



Photograph 5 - Parker Street entrance on left, looking north towards Bellevue Gardens.



Photograph 6 - Driveway entry to 'The Grange' (No.82 Lake Road) from Parker Street. The former Port Macquarie Eye Care building and associated parking in left of frame.

2. THE PROPOSAL AND BACKGROUND

2.1 The Proposal

The proposal seeks consent for alterations and additions to the Port Macquarie Private Hospital over two stages. Specifically, the proposal involves:

Stage 1 -

- Alterations to the Lake Road front entry, reception/waiting area, toilets, café and pharmacy, medical imaging facility (ground floor) and 5 medical suites and executive/administration area (first floor).
- New ground floor east wing extension including new lobby, pre-op beds, switch room and discharge lounge.
- Various other alterations to existing in-patient rooms.
- 1 additional operating theatre, support room, construction of the shell for a further new operating theatre on the southern side of the building to be the 8th theatre and completed in Stage 2.
- New sub-substation (Parker Street) and maintenance office in south eastern part of hospital grounds.
- Construction of new on-grade car parking area (19 spaces) and acoustic barrier in the south western corner of the site, including tree removal.
- Upgrade to existing car parking adjacent to Lake Road frontage including 2 ambulance parking spaces and new patient/visitor drop off zone.
- Upgrade to temporary drop off area on Parker Street frontage with landscaping.
- Demolition of the Pre admission Clinic and 12 existing parking spaces, construction of 44 car parking spaces and relocation of the existing exit driveway to Parker Street.
- Construction of a pedestrian footpath along the northern edge of the building connecting the Lake Road and Parker Street frontages.
- Erection of building identification signs on the western and eastern elevations.
- At the completion of Stage 1, 159 parking spaces are proposed to serve the existing and proposed development, including 15 spaces that are shared with 'The Grange' medical suites under DP793705. This is 33 additional spaces than currently available on site.

Stage 2 -

- New first floor addition to eastern part of hospital including 28 new beds in the surgical/medical inpatient unit and critical care unit.
- 10 existing 2 bed rooms will be converted to single bed rooms resulting in an overall total of 90 in-patient beds at the site.
- 1 additional ground floor operating theatre (south).
- Upgraded parking area adjacent to the eastern frontage including day surgery drop off zone.
- At the completion of Stage 2, a total of 159 car spaces are proposed to serve the existing and proposed development, including 15 spaces shared with 'The Grange'.

Future plans for the site beyond the current application are not known. An overall development masterplan has not been submitted. The key development data is provided in **Table 1**. Site plans showing Stage 1 and Stage 2 works are provided below.

Table 1: Key Development Data - Total development

Control	Proposal
Site area	1.73 ha
GFA	Total - 8,210m2
Clause 4.6 Requests	No
No. of residential apartments	Nil
Max Height	8.5m height limit. Proposed height 8.5m.
Hospital beds	Current - 72 Refurbished 2 bed rooms to single bed rooms - less 10 Additional 28 (new first floor, Parker Street) Total - 90 beds
Setbacks - buildings	North - 1.0m to building, fire stair East - 12.2m to building South - 1.065m Acoustic barrier, 5.3m Maintenance office West - 36.2m to building
Operating Theatres	Current - 6 Additional - 2 Total - 8
Car parking spaces	Current - 126 (including 15 shared with No.82 Lake Road, 'The Grange') Additional - 33 Total - 159 (including 15 shared with No.82 Lake Road, 'The Grange')
Daytime staff	Current - 125 Additional - 25 Total - 150
Daytime doctors	Current - 18 Additional - 12 Total - 30

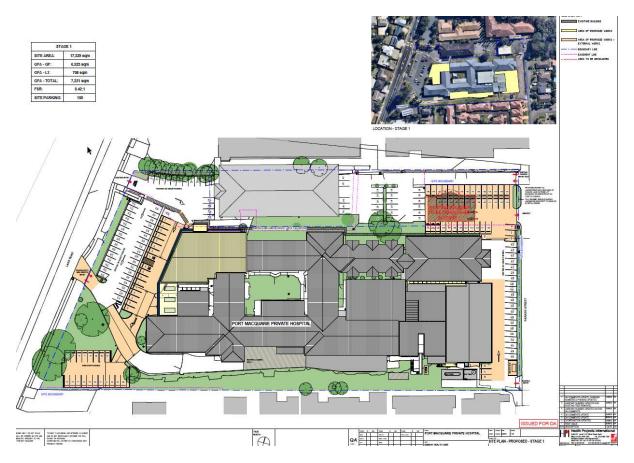


Figure 2 - Site Plan - Proposed Stage 1

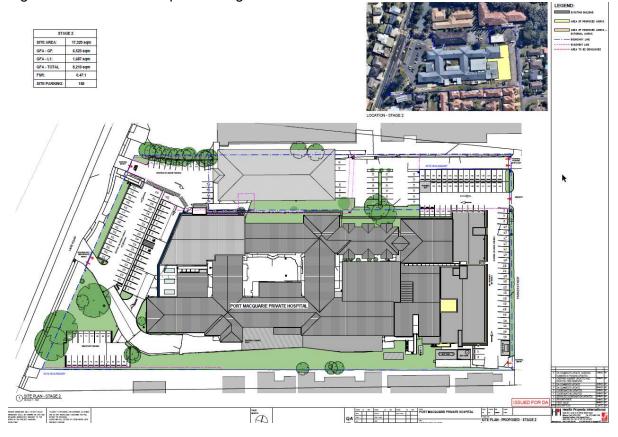


Figure 3 - Site Plan - Proposed Stage 2

For further details and elevations refer to architectural plans prepared by Health Projects International, 13 September 2023 **Attachment C.**

2.2 Background

A pre-lodgement meeting was held prior to the lodgement of the applicant where relevant legislation, traffic and parking, noise, privacy and servicing applicable to the site were discussed with the applicant. The applicant's Statement of Environmental Effects, plans and associated technical reports were submitted in support of the application and in response to the matters raised at the pre-lodgement meeting.

The development application was lodged on 18 October 2022. A chronology of the development application since lodgement is outlined in Table 2.

Table 2: Chronology of the DA

Date	Event
18 October 2022	Development Application Lodged
3 November 2022	Notification of the application 3 November 2022 to 2 December 2022
31 October 2022	DA referred to external agencies - Essential Energy and NSW Rural Fire Service
21 February 2023	Comments received from Essential Energy
18 January 2023	NSW Rural Fire Service - Bushfire Safety Authority issued
14 December 2022	Redacted submissions provided to applicant.
3 February 2023	Request for Information sent from Council to applicant: Various matters
14 February 2023	Request for information from Council to the applicant: Waste Management
14 March 2023	Panel Briefing
26 April 2023	Panel site visit
9 May 2023	Part Additional information received.
24 May 2023	Part additional information received Architectural Plans - New TIA, Version 2

27 June 2023	 New Koala Development Assessment Report, New Targeted Asbestos Assessment Covering letter - Think Planners Part additional information received. Architectural Plans, Version 6 23 June 2023 TIA, Version 3, 23 June 2023 Addendum to Arborist report for Norfolk Pine 27 June 2023 Letter of support from Hospital CEO. 	
19 July 2023	Draft conditions to applicant	
2 August 2023	Northern Region Planning Panel meeting - Record of Deferral issued 7 August 2023.	
14 September 2023	Amended Plans and supporting documents received: - Architectural Plans dated 13 September 2023 - TIA, Version 4, 13 September 2023 - Draft Construction Management Plan, 14 September 2023 - Additional Information Cover Letter - Think Planners September 2023	
22 September	Notification of the amended plans 22 September 2023 to 8 October 2023	
1 November 2023	Draft Conditions to applicant	

2.3 Site History

- The site has been occupied by a private hospital since 1979 and has expanded over time.
- There are no concurrent applications currently being considered for the subject site.
- The private hospital site had previously included land to the north at 82 Lake Road (formerly Lot 2 DP793705) now known as 'The Grange'. 'The Grange' building has been subdivided into 10 individual units under Strata Plan 35876.
- 'The Grange' site benefits from an easement for right of way and parking over the hospital land. The easement contains 15 marked car parking spaces. The easement for parking was established under DP 793705 when the hospital site was subdivided into two lots. The development proposal does not impact the parking spaces within the easement. The applicant has advised that access and parking for 'The Grange' will be maintained during the construction phases.
- 'The Grange' also benefits from an easement for electricity purposes over existing line of mains (approximate position only) through the hospital building and an easement for telephone supply over an existing line of cables (approximate line of mains only). The applicant has advised that the services will continue to be catered for as part of alterations and additions to the hospital. The development proposal involves construction work in the vicinity of the easements.
- 'The Grange' site also includes car parking an access driveway from Parker Street to the east. The hospital site benefits from a 'right of access' 7.0m wide over 'The Grange' site at the north east corner of the site under DP 883314. The development proposal includes use of the right of access to access 15 car parking spaces.

- The existing building at the north-east corner of the hospital land off Parker Street is
 used as the hospital Pre admission Clinic. It was previously located on a separate
 allotment and known as PM Eye Centre. The lot has been consolidated with the
 hospital site.
- Day surgery services are accessed from Parker Street and operate Monday to Friday. Patients are generally dropped off and picked up for day surgery procedures.
- On-site parking areas are often near capacity weekdays. On-street parking along Parker Street, parts of Mayfair and Chelsea (off Parker Street) and the Lake Road frontage have also been observed to be heavily utilised on weekdays.

3. STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

When determining a development application, the consent authority must take into consideration the matters outlined in Section 4.15(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 ('EP&A Act'). These matters as are of relevance to the development application include the following:

- (a) the provisions of any environmental planning instrument, proposed instrument, development control plan, planning agreement and the regulations
 - (i) any environmental planning instrument, and
 - (ii) any proposed instrument that is or has been the subject of public consultation under this Act and that has been notified to the consent authority (unless the Planning Secretary has notified the consent authority that the making of the proposed instrument has been deferred indefinitely or has not been approved), and
 - (iii) any development control plan, and
 - (iiia) any planning agreement that has been entered into under section 7.4, or any draft planning agreement that a developer has offered to enter into under section 7.4, and
 - (iv) the regulations (to the extent that they prescribe matters for the purposes of this paragraph),
 - that apply to the land to which the development application relates,
- (b) the likely impacts of that development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality,
- (c) the suitability of the site for the development,
- (d) any submissions made in accordance with this Act or the regulations,
- (e) the public interest.

These matters are further considered below.

It is noted that the proposal is for Integrated Development (s4.46) and requires consent under Rural Fires Act. General Terms of Approval were issued on 18 January 2023.

The proposal requires referral to Essential Energy under SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure 2021) referral issues and comments have been received.

The proposal is not considered to be:

• Designated Development (s4.10), or

• Crown DA (s4.33)

3.1 Environmental Planning Instruments, proposed instrument, development control plan, planning agreement and the regulations

The relevant environmental planning instruments, proposed instruments, development control plans, planning agreements and the matters for consideration under the Regulation are considered below.

(a) Section 4.15(1)(a)(i) - Provisions of Environmental Planning Instruments

The following Environmental Planning Instruments are relevant to this application:

- State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production) 2021
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021
- Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Environmental Plan 2011

A summary of the key matters for consideration arising from these State Environmental Planning Policies are outlined in **Table 3** and considered in more detail below.

Table 3: Summary of Applicable Environmental Planning Instruments

EPI	Matters for Consideration	Comply (Y/N)
State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity & Conservation) 2021	Chapter 4: Koala Habitat Protection 2021 Section 4.10 - The site is greater than 1 hectare in area and a Koala Development Assessment report has been submitted following evidence of Koala use of the site. Proposal considered acceptable subject to conditions of consent.	Y
State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021	 Chapter 3: Advertising and Signage Section 3.6 – granting consent to signage Section 3.11(1) – matters for consideration are included in the table attached at Appendix B. Proposed signs considered acceptable. 	
State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021	Chapter 2: State and Regional Development ■ Section 2.19(1) declares the proposal regionally significant development pursuant to Clause 5(b) of Schedule 6 as it comprises a Health Services Facility with a capital investment value over \$5 million dollars.	Y

SEPP (Resilience & Hazards)	 Chapter 2: Coastal Management Section 2.8(1) - Development on land in proximity to coastal wetlands or littoral rainforest. Chapter 4: Remediation of Land Section 4.6 - Contamination and remediation has been considered in the Contamination Report and the proposal is satisfactory subject to conditions. 	Y
State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production)	Chapter 2: Primary Production and Rural Development	Υ
State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021	 Chapter 2: Infrastructure Section 2.48(2) (Determination of development applications—other development) – electricity transmission - the proposal is acceptable subject to conditions requiring satisfactory arrangements for protection of the proposed substation and decommissioning of underground power lines in the south west corner of the site. Section 2.121(4) - Traffic-generating development (proposal is not of a scale that triggers traffic generating development) Section 2.60 - Development for health services facilities permitted with consent in prescribed zones, that includes R1 General Residential zone and is located over 90m form Gordon Street (classified road). 	Y
Proposed Instruments	No compliance issues identified	NA
Port Macquarie- Hastings LEP 2011	 Clause 2.3 - Permissibility and zone objectives Clause 4.3 - Height of Buildings Clause 4.4 - Floor Space Ratio Clause 7.1 - Acid Sulfate Soils Clause 7.13 - Essential Services 	Y
Development Control Plan 2013	Part B - General Provisions - refer to Attachment B .	Υ

Consideration of the relevant SEPPs is outlined below.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021

Section 4.4 - This SEPP applies to all non-rural zoned land within the Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Government Area. The subject site is zoned R1 general Residential (non-rural zone) and the SEPP applies.

Section 4.10 - Having considered the SEPP, the application and site inspection, the consent authority is not prevented form granting consent in this case for the following reasons:

• The property is not subject to a Koala Plan of Management

- A Koala Development Assessment has been completed.
- The assessment concludes that the proposal will not have adverse direct or indirect impact on the Koala and its habitat.

A detailed significance of impact assessment has been applied in accordance with Section 7.2 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act and concluded no significant impact. A significance assessment has been applied in accordance with the EPBC Act and concluded no significant impact.

Planting of 12 Koala feed trees is proposed at the southern side of the site to replace the 6 trees to be removed. The assessment report recommends:

- Pre-clearance survey of trees
- Provision of signs along roads within the development to warn drivers of the presence of koalas
- New roads to have speed limit of 10 km/h
- Installation of speed-bumps within the development
- Regular roadside weed management to increase driver visibility.

Recommendations have been reviewed by Council's Ecologist and Development Engineer with appropriate conditions of consent applied. Installation of speed bumps have not been recommended as these are not considered necessary due to low traffic speed and would pose potential risk to visitors and pedestrians with low mobility.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Industry and Employment) 2021

Chapter 3: Advertising and Signage

- Section 3.6 granting consent to signage
- Section 3.11(1) matters for consideration are included in the table attached at Attachment B.

Proposed business identification signs are considered acceptable.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021 ('Planning Systems SEPP')

Chapter 2: State and Regional Development

The proposal is *regionally significant development* pursuant to Section 2.19(1) as it satisfies the criteria in Clause 5 of Schedule 6 of the Planning Systems SEPP as the proposal is development for Health Services Facility. Accordingly, the Northern Region Planning Panel is the consent authority for the application.

The proposal has been referred to the Panel and is consistent with this Policy.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Primary Production) 2021

Chapter 2: Primary Production and Rural Development

Section 2.28 and 2.29 - The proposed development will create no adverse impact on any oyster aquaculture development or priority oyster aquiculture area. In particular, the development is well buffered to any watercourse, contains no hazardous type use/activities and is well buffered from any oyster growing areas located within the Hastings River.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021

Chapter 2: Coastal Management

Section 2.8 - The site is mapped as within proximity to coastal wetlands. Having considered Section 2.8, the proposed development is not considered likely to result in any of the following:

- (a) identifiable adverse impacts on the biophysical, hydrological and ecological integrity of the nearby coastal wetland; and
- (b) identifiable impact to water flows to the nearby coastal wetland.

In particular, the proposed development works are located over 40m from the mapped coastal wetland.

Section 2.10 - The site is located within a mapped coastal environment area. Having regard to Section 2.10 of the SEPP, the proposed development is not considered likely to result in any of the following:

- a) any adverse impact on integrity and resilience of the biophysical, hydrological (surface and groundwater) and ecological environment;
- b) any adverse impacts on coastal environmental values and natural coastal processes;
- c) any adverse impact on marine vegetation, native vegetation and fauna and their habitats, undeveloped headlands and rock platforms;
- d) any adverse impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage, practices and places;
- e) any adverse impacts on the cultural and built environment heritage;
- f) any adverse impacts on the use of the surf zone;
- g) any adverse impact on the visual amenity and scenic qualities of the coast, including coastal headlands;
- h) overshadowing, wind funneling and the loss of views from public places to foreshores; and
- any adverse impacts on existing public open space and safe access to and along the foreshore, beach, headland or rock platform for members of the public, including persons with a disability.

Overall, the bulk, scale and size of the proposed development is compatible with the surrounding built environment and the zoning provides for health services facilities. The proposed development works are located over 40 metres from the mapped coastal wetland and no processes will occur that create an adverse impact on such an environment. Access to key coastal environments is also not impacted and the area to be developed onsite is already disturbed from past uses/activities, ensuring no additional coastal environment is to be lost.

Chapter 4: Remediation of Land

The provisions of Chapter 4 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021 ('the Resilience and Hazards SEPP') have been considered in the assessment of the development application. Section 4.6 of Resilience and Hazards SEPP requires consent authorities to consider whether the land is contaminated, and if the land is contaminated, it is satisfied that the land is for the purpose for which the development is proposed to be carried out.

The initial geotechnical report for the site identified the presence of asbestos within an existing internal courtyard.

A further assessment was undertaken (Presna, May 2023) including additional sampling, could not locate the initial find. Whilst no remediation of the site is required based on the findings of the report, it is advised that the land owner update their Asbestos Register to include this area as potentially containing asbestos waste. In addition, any works that are done on this site should have an unexpected finds procedure to follow in the event that material containing asbestos is found during the development. Council's Environmental Health Officer has recommended suitable conditions of consent.

The proposal is considered to be consistent with the SEPP, subject to imposition of relevant conditions of consent in relation to works during construction.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021

Chapter 2: Infrastructure

Section 2.48 - Referral to Essential Energy is required for any of the following:

- (a) the penetration of ground within 2m of an underground electricity power line or an electricity distribution pole or within 10m of any part of an electricity tower,
- (b) development carried out:
 - (i) within or immediately adjacent to an easement for electricity purposes (whether or not the electricity infrastructure exists), or
 - (ii) immediately adjacent to an electricity substation, or
 - (iii) within 5m of an exposed overhead electricity power line,
- (c) installation of a swimming pool any part of which is:
 - (i) within 30m of a structure supporting an overhead electricity transmission line, measured horizontally from the top of the pool to the bottom of the structure at ground level, or
 - (ii) within 5m of an overhead electricity power line, measured vertically upwards from the top of the pool.

A referral to Essential Energy pursuant to *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021* ('Transport and Infrastructure SEPP') raised potential safety issues due to proximity to exiting electrical infrastructure being a substation on the southern side of the building and underground mains that serve the substation.

A new substation is proposed adjacent to Parker Street and the plans amended by the applicant to show compliant setback to the new building and existing gas supply. Further detail will be required to confirm adequate protection from accidental damage to the substation. Preliminary plans have been provided in this respect.

The applicant has advised that the underground mains that traverse the south western corner of the site will be made redundant upon commissioning of the new substation. This information has been provided to Essential Energy.

The matters have been addressed by suitable conditions of consent.

Section 2.60 - Outlines that development for health services facilities (includes hospital) are permitted with consent in certain prescribed zones. The site is zoned R1 General Residential, which is a prescribed zone and therefore permits the hospital, with consent. The proposal is considered compatible with the surrounding and envisaged development for the area. Furthermore, the height, floor space ratio and setbacks of the development are consistent with those applicable to residential development, being the other predominant use in the area. This ensures an acceptable level of bulk and scale.

Section 2.121(4) - Prescribes certain traffic-generating development and thresholds and the need to refer such proposals to Transport for NSW. In this case, the proposal is not of a scale that triggers traffic generating development and is located over 90m from Gordon Street (classified road).

Based on the above, the proposed development addresses relevant clauses in the SEPP.

Port Macquarie- Hastings Local Environmental Plan 2011

The relevant local environmental plan applying to the site is the Port Macquarie Hastings *Local Environmental Plan 2011* ('the LEP'). The aims of the LEP include:

1.2 Aims of Plan

- (1) This Plan aims to make local environmental planning provisions for land in Port Macquarie-Hastings in accordance with the relevant standard environmental planning instrument under section 3.20 of the Act.
- (2) The particular aims of this Plan are as follows—
- (aa) to protect and promote the use and development of land for arts and cultural activity, including music and other performance arts,
- (a) to protect, conserve and sustainably manage the ecological biodiversity and natural environment of the Port Macquarie-Hastings area,
- (b) to facilitate a strong and diverse local economy within the Port Macquarie-Hastings area,
- (c) to manage and coordinate the orderly, equitable and economic use and development of land within the Port Macquarie-Hastings area,
- (d) to facilitate the provision and coordination of community services and facilities within the Port Macquarie-Hastings area,
- (e) to facilitate adaptive planning for natural hazards and risks, including flooding, erosion, inundation, land stability, bush fire risk and acid sulfate soils within the Port Macquarie-Hastings area,
- (f) to reinforce the role of the Port Macquarie-Hastings area's settlement hierarchy, centred on Port Macquarie and supported by its surrounding towns and villages,
- (g) to ensure the effective management of public assets within the Port Macquarie-Hastings area,
- (h) to provide a land use framework for development within the Port Macquarie-Hastings area that is safe, inclusive and equitable, and caters for the housing, employment, entertainment, cultural, welfare and recreational needs of residents and visitors,
- (i) to ensure that development does not conflict with the hierarchy of business and retail centres in the Port Macquarie-Hastings area and the role of the Greater Port Macquarie Central Business District as the focal point for subregional functions and service delivery,
- (j) to identify and protect features of environmental, cultural or visual importance within the Port Macquarie-Hastings area,
- (k) to ensure that new urban development makes a positive contribution to the public domain and streetscape,

- (I) to facilitate efficient use of urban land and infrastructure by appropriate staging of development and ensuring appropriate density of development,
- (m) to provide effective and efficient connectivity and movement corridors within and between subdivisions.

The proposal is consistent with these aims for the following reasons:

- The development does not significantly impact on any ecology, biodiversity or natural environment.
- The proposal will upgrade and continue to provide important medical facilities for the local community.
- The development does not adversely impact on public assets.
- The site is already used for a private hospital and located within an area that comprises other health service facilities.
- The development does not impact on any important environmental or cultural features.

Zoning and Permissibility (Part 2)

The site is located within the R1 Zone pursuant to Clause 2.2 of the LEP

According to the definitions in Clause 4 (contained in the Dictionary), the proposal satisfies the definition of *health services facility* which is a permissible use with consent in the Land Use Table in Clause 2.3.

In addition, development for health services facilities (includes hospital) are permitted with consent in certain prescribed zones including the R1 General Residential zone under SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021

The zone objectives include the following (pursuant to the Land Use Table in Clause 2.3):

- To provide for the housing needs of the community.
- To provide for a variety of housing types and densities.
- To enable other land uses that provide facilities or services to meet the day to day needs of residents.

The proposal is considered to be consistent relevant zone objectives for the following reasons:

- The proposal is permissible with consent under State and Local legislation.
- The proposal provides a medical service to meet the day to day needs of residents.

The site is located within the R1 General Residential Zone pursuant to Clause 2.3 of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Environmental Plan 2011 (Figure 2) The proposal is permissible in the zone with consent and is consistent with the zone objectives.



Figure 4 - Zoning Map

General Controls and Development Standards (Part 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7)

The LEP also contains controls relating to development standards, miscellaneous provisions and local provisions. The controls relevant to the proposal are considered in **Table 4** below.

Table 4: Consideration of the LEP Controls

Control	Requirement	Proposal	Comply
Height of buildings (Cl 4.3(2))	8.5 metres	8.5 metres	Yes
FSR (Cl 4.4(2))	1:1	0.45:1	Yes
Acid sulphate soils (Cl 6.1)	Class 5	Part of the site is mapped as containing potential for acid sulphate soils. A suitable condition of consent will be imposed requiring a management plan should these soils be encountered.	Yes
Essential Services Clause 7.13	Adequate arrangements for services required.	Adequate arrangements can be made for provision of essential services including	Yes

water supply, electricity supply, sewer, storm water drainage and suitable road access to serve the development. Provision of electricity will be subject to obtaining satisfactory	
arrangements as a condition of consent.	

The proposal is considered to be generally consistent with the LEP.

(b) Section 4.15 (1)(a)(ii) - Provisions of any Proposed Instruments

There are no proposed instruments which have been the subject of public consultation under the EP&A Act relevant to the proposal.

(c) Section 4.15(1)(a)(iii) - Provisions of any Development Control Plan

The following Development Control Plan is relevant to this application:

• Port Macquarie Hastings Development Control Plan 2013 ('the DCP')

The development generally complies with the Port Macquarie Hastings Development Control Plan 2013 - refer to the attached Assessment Table **Attachment B**.

It should be noted that the DCP does not provide specific controls for health services facility (hospital) however the proposal complies with setbacks required for residential development in the R1 zone and locality being a minimum 4.5m to street setbacks and 3 metres to side boundary for first floors and above and down to 900mm side setback where it can be demonstrated that solar access to adjoining development is not adversely impacted.

The DCP does not provide specific car parking requirements for a hospital as discussed in section 3.2 of this report.

Section 4.15(1)(a)(iiia) – Planning agreements under Section 7.4 of the EP&A Act

There have been no planning agreements entered into and there are no draft planning agreements being proposed for the site.

(d) Section 4.15(1)(a)(iv) - Provisions of Regulations

Section 61 of the 2021 EP&A Regulation contains matters that must be taken into consideration by a consent authority in determining a development application, with the following matters being relevant to the proposal:

 Provisions of AS 2601 (demolition) - demolition work on site is capable of compliance with this Australian Standard and is reinforced by conditions. See condition included in Attachment A.

- Section 62 Consideration of fire safety does not apply as this section applies to the
 determination of a development application for a change of building use for an existing
 building if the applicant does not seek the rebuilding or alteration of the building.
- Section 64 Consent authority may require upgrade of buildings of the 2021 EP&A Regulation is relevant to the proposal. There appears to be some impact to existing egress and fire safety provisions due to the proposed additions and alterations.

Proposed new work is required to comply with the BCA in force at the time the construction certificate application is lodged. Additionally, where new works impact the existing egress or fire safety of the existing building, that part will be required to be upgraded to comply with current requirements. This includes fire safety and egress provisions.

The Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021 under Section 14 also places an onus on the certifier to ensure the fire protection and structural capacity of the building will not be reduced. This is separate to any conditions of consent. This includes the measures to protect persons using the building, and to facilitate their safe egress from the building, if there is a fire, and also the measures to restrict the spread of fire from the building to other buildings nearby.

It is considered that due to the extent and nature of the proposed alterations and additions, the construction certificate assessment by the relevant certifier, will be required to assess building upgrades, if required, to comply with current guidelines and there are no specific conditions of development consent required.

3.2 Section 4.15(1)(b) - Likely Impacts of Development

The likely impacts of the development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality must be considered. In this regard, potential impacts related to the proposal have been considered in response to SEPPs, LEP and DCP controls outlined above.

The consideration of impacts on the natural and built environments includes the following:

• **Context and setting** – the site has street frontage to Lake Road and Parker Street. A mix of low density residential development and medical uses adjoin the site to the north and south.

The broader Lake Road precinct between Savoy Street and Hill Street comprises a number of medical uses. The proposal is considered to be compatible with other development in the locality and adequately addresses planning controls in the area.

The bulk and scale of the development is considered acceptable in the location.

The proposal does not have adverse impact on view sharing.

There are no significant adverse privacy impacts with adequate building separation and screening provided.

There are no significant adverse overshadowing impacts.

• Access and traffic - The applicant has submitted a revised Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) dated 13 September 2023 and included at Attachment E.

The report adequately describes the road network and key nearby intersections including Lake Road and Hill Street located north of the site, Lake Road and Savoy Street to the south, and Savoy Street and Parker Street to the south east.

Intersection surveys were conducted in May 2023 and from this traffic volume data obtained regarding the existing peak hour conditions in the morning and evening. The assessment confirmed that intersections will continue to operate with spare capacity during morning and evening peaks under the existing plus development scenario that factors in the impact of the development. The impact on the wider road network has been assessed and no external improvements are required to support the development.

The applicant has confirmed that the Lake Road north driveway will remain operational throughout the construction phase and access will be maintained to The Grange.

The existing Lake Road south driveway is currently egress only and proposed to be access for service vehicles. The introduction of an additional 'right turn' movement from Lake Road by service vehicles into the existing Lake Road south driveway is not supported and the applicant has been advised. Access (left in) by service vehicles would be acceptable and draft conditions of consent have been included to require upgrade to the driveway.

A future access driveway connecting between Parker Street and Lake Road along the southern boundary would be subject to further detailed analysis and justification and is not approved as part of the current application.

- Parking and Manoeuvring The site is currently served by a total of 126 marked car
 parking spaces across three areas as follows:
 - 1. <u>Lake Road</u> with access driveway at the northern end of the site and egress to the south. There are a total of 68 existing marked spaces in this location. Notably 15 marked car parking spaces along the northern boundary and across the front of 'The Grange' building form part of an easement for right of way and parking (DP793705). These spaces are shared with 'The Grange' site. 'The Grange' site had previously formed part of the hospital site and the easement was formed when the property was subdivided. 'The Grange' building has ten (10) strata units that contain health related uses and also has 23 marked parking spaces at the rear of the building that are accessed off Parker Street.

There are two drop off spaces adjacent to the front entry of the hospital.

- 2. <u>Parker Street South</u> adjacent to the day surgery facilities has an access and egress driveway with 46 marked spaces.
- 3. <u>Parker Street North</u> parking area has 12 marked car parking spaces adjacent to the Pre admission clinic.

Deliveries and servicing areas are located at the southern side of the building and separate to the parking areas and no changes are proposed.

There are no bicycle or motorcycle parking spaces currently provided.

Numeric values used to estimate demand for car parking varies between councils in NSW and there is no standard approach to calculate demand for a private hospital other than the *RTA Guide to Traffic Generating Development 2002* - discussed below.

Port Macquarie Hastings Development Control Plan 2013 includes objectives for parking provision to ensure that adequate provision is made for off-street parking commensurate with the volume and turnover of traffic likely to be generated by the development. DCP 2013 does not provide minimum car parking rates for a hospital. Council's DCP 2013 does include a rate for Medical Centre or Health Consulting Room based on 3 spaces per practitioner plus 1 space per two staff.

Where proposed development does not fall within listed land uses the provision of car parking should be supported by a parking demand study. The capacity of on street parking to address peak or acute demand may be considered in some cases however, the DCP provides that on street parking will not be used for the purposes of car parking calculations unless it can be demonstrated that there is adequate on street space to accommodate peak and acute parking demands and road function, safety and garbage collection is not compromised.

The initial Traffic and Access Report (TTPA, September 2022) submitted with the application calculated additional parking requirements based on *RTA Guide to Traffic Generating Development 2002*. The guidelines are based on in-patient hospital beds. This approach is not considered appropriate for the Port Macquarie Private Hospital site because the proposed development will provide complementary services in addition to in-patient hospital beds such as day surgery, rehabilitation, medical imaging and consulting rooms.

For comparison, the RTA rate is calculated as follows:

Peak parking accumulation (PPA) for a private hospital is estimated - using the 2002 RTA guidelines as follows:

PPA = -19.56 + 0.85 B + 0.27 ADS

B = the number of beds ASDS = the average number of staff per weekday shift

Based on current beds of 72 and current maximum daytime staff of 143, the estimated demand based on the RTA guideline would be 80.25 spaces.

Based on total proposed beds of 90, maximum daytime staff of 180, the estimated demand based on RTA guideline would be 106 spaces.

A new Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) (Traffix, June 2023) was submitted following a request for further information made by Council assessment staff. A further updated TIA (Traffix, 13 September 2023) was submitted following Panel meeting on 2 August to reflect amended plans and staging.

The Traffix assessment relies on a 'first principles' approach to determine parking future demand based on existing travel characteristics determined via a travel mode questionnaire for staff, patients and visitors to the hospital and a parking survey.

A summary of travel mode survey findings is provided below. There are no details for how many people were surveyed or over what period.

- o 97% of staff drove, 2.8% of staff were dropped off.
- No staff walked or arrived by public transport.
- 58% of staff surveyed parked on site, while the remainder parked in adjacent car parks or on Lake Road or Parker Street.
- o 74% of patients surveyed were dropped off.
- 96% of patients who drove, parked within the site.

The TIA includes results of the on-site car parking demand surveyed in May 2023 between 6.00am and 6.00pm. The results are reported in the TIA and summarised in the table below.



Chart 2: On-site Car Parking Survey (Excludes 'The Grange' Rear Car Park)

Figure 5 - Chart 2 Extract from TIA, Page 13 (Traffix, September 2023)

The TIA survey results confirm observation by Council staff that car parking demand at the hospital site, and surrounding sites, peak from about 10am to 12pm each day weekday with a 'handful' of spaces being available in each of the three on-site parking areas at any one time. Either side of the peak, spare capacity on-site ranges between 5 to 92 spaces.

Although not quantified in the survey, on-street parking along Lake Road to the south and Parker Street has also been observed as part of the assessment to be heavily utilised during the peak on-site parking times. The two car parking areas off Parker Street and on-street parking are generally vacant during evenings and on Saturdays and Sundays.

The TIA (Section 5) adopts the following approach to estimating demand for each hospital component:

- Parking demand for hospital beds (in-patient/overnight) has been determined based on the number of additional beds (18), the percentage of patients who drive (26%) at the 85Th percentile demand factor = 3.97 spaces (rounded to 4).
- Parking demand for staff and doctors has been estimated based on the number of additional staff/doctors (37) with 97% driving and 60% parking on site = 21.53 spaces (rounded to 22)
- Operating theatres have been accounted for in the bed assessment noting that patients undergoing operations generally do not drive and will be dropped off.
- Consulting suites demand has been based on 5 new suites, 26% of patients driving and 3 patients per suite at any one time with doctors/staff accounted for above.
- Medical imaging is based on the RTA medical centre rate 4 spaces per 100m
 GFA with a 50% reduction for synergy factor between other uses at the hospital based on 306m2 = 6 spaces
- The café and pharmacy uses are considered to be ancillary to other uses at the hospital.

A summary of additional demand is provided in Table 3 from the TIA. Extract below.

Table 3: Overall Parking Demands

Hospital Component	Stage 1	Stage 2
Beds	0	4
Staff	6	15
Doctors	5	7
Operating Theatres	0	0
Consulting Suites	4	4Υ
Medical Imaging	6	6
Pharmacy	0	0
Clinic	-4	-4
Day Surgery Expansion	0	0
Café	0	0
Administration	0	0
CSSD	0	0
New Demand	+17	+32
Existing MAXIMUM Demand (See Section 3.5)	126	126
Total MAXIMUM Demands	143	158
Total Provision	159	159
Difference (Provision minus Demand)	+16	+1

Figure 6 - Table 3 Extract from TIA, Page 25 (Traffix, September 2023)

On balance the estimate for additional parking demand prepared by Traffix (September 2023) is considered a better reflection of likely demand than the RTA guideline. Additional demand generated for each stage as referred to in the Figure 5 of the TIA is summarised as follows:

- Stage 1 Additional demand generated is 17 parking spaces.
- Stage 2 Additional demand generated is 15 parking spaces.
- Total Overall additional demand for Stage 1 and Stage 2 has been estimated at 32 parking spaces based on the Traffix assessment. 33 additional spaces are proposed at Stage 1.

A total of 159 spaces, including 15 spaces shared with 'The Grange', will be provided on site at completion of Stage 1 and therefore a surplus of 16 spaces will be provided until such time as Stage 2 is completed.

The TIA recommends the implementation of a Green Travel Plan to address some issues associated with management of parking demand. A Green Travel Plan may assist to reduce demand for on-site parking by encouraging staff and visitors to take public transport, ride or walk to the site. Such plans are more likely to be successful

in metropolitan areas with access to public transport options. A Green Travel Plan would be difficult to monitor from a compliance perspective. Nevertheless, the hospital operators are encouraged to consider a Green Travel Plan. A suitable condition has been included for preparation of a Travel Access Guide to provide information about travel options for staff and visitors.

Bicycle parking for 10 bikes is recommended and a suitable condition proposed to require these to be provided prior to occupation.

Parking and driveway widths are capable of compliance with relevant Australian Standard (AS2890) and conditions have been recommended to reflect these requirements. Refer to **Attachment A**.

- Public Domain The proposed development will not adversely impact the public domain. Additional landscaping is proposed at the Lake Road frontage.
- Water Supply Connection Council records indicate that the development site is serviced by an 80mm potable water service and separate fire service from the 100mm main on the far side of Lake Rd. Final water demand will need to be determined by a hydraulic consultant. Further modelling will be required as augmentation of existing infrastructure is considered to be likely. Council's water and sewer servicing team have reviewed the proposal and appropriate conditions are recommended to reinforce the above.
- Sewer Connection Council records indicate that the development site is serviced by a 150mm reticulation sewer on the northern side of the property. This sewer has been identified as being at or over capacity. A 450mm trunk sewer also traverses the southern boundary of the development site. Final demand will need to be determined by a hydraulic consultant. Further modelling will be required as augmentation of existing infrastructure is considered to be likely. Council's water and sewer servicing team have reviewed the proposal and appropriate conditions are recommended to reinforce the above.
- Stormwater The site drains towards the north and the site is served by an existing stormwater drainage system. A detailed stormwater drainage design, including on-site detention to limit discharge, will be required prior to release of the Construction Certificate. Council's Stormwater Engineer has reviewed the proposal and appropriate conditions are recommended to reinforce the above.
- Utilities Telecommunications and electricity services are available to the site. A new
 electrical substation is proposed off Parker Street. The applicant has advised that
 underground power lines that traverse the site from Lake Road to the existing
 substation will be redundant when the new substation is operational.
- **Heritage** The site does not contain any known heritage items or sites of significance. The site is also disturbed from past uses.
- Other land resources the site is located within an established urban context and will not sterilise any significant mineral or agricultural resources
- Water/air/soils impacts The proposed development will not have any significant adverse impacts on water resources and the water cycle. The northern part of the site

is mapped for potential Class 5 Acid sulphate soils. A suitable condition of consent will require the applicant to monitor the site during construction.

The construction and/or operations of the development will not result in any significant adverse impacts on the existing air quality or result in pollution. Standard precautionary site management, including erosion and sediment control and occupation conditions are recommended in **Attachment A.**

• Flora and fauna impacts - Construction will require removal of some native vegetation however this site is not located within a mapped Biodiversity area. The site is also heavily disturbed for past land use. Tree removal includes removal of 6 Koala feed trees in the south western corner of the site. Replacement planting at a ratio of 2:1 trees is proposed in accordance with Council's DCP 2013

The development is considered compliant with the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.

 Natural environment – Excavation is proposed at the south west corner to cater for new staff car parking area. It is considered that the new parking area (uncovered) can constructed and retained without impact on adjoining properties, infrastructure and trees subject to suitable conditions.

Tree removal, including 6 Koala feed trees and a mature Norfolk Pine, is proposed to accommodate the new car parking area in the south west of the site. An arborist assessment has been provided together with and an addendum letter related to removal of a mature Norfolk Pine (27 June 2023). The report has been reviewed by Council's arborist and suitable condition of consent applied related to management of trees during construction and removal as appropriate. Replacement planting is referred to above under Flora and Fauna.

• **Noise and vibration** – Noise and vibration generated during the construction phase is capable of being managed. Suitable conditions will be imposed to limit working hours for the demolition and construction works.

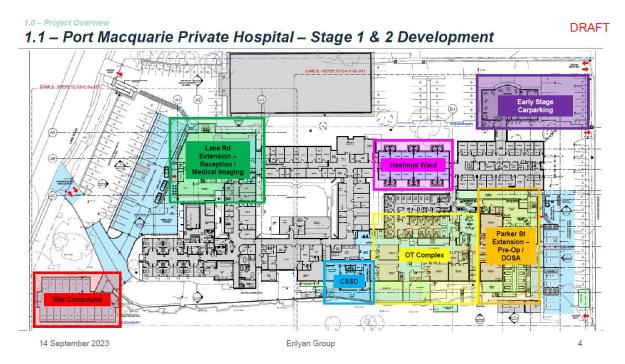
The acoustic report predicts that the installation of plant will not increase ambient noise for neighbouring properties. The report concludes that attenuation over distance is sufficient based on a 'worst case scenario' as the specific plant makes and models are not available at this stage. The acoustic design and certification of mechanical services is recommended to be provided prior to the construction certificate and a suitable condition of consent has been applied.

The report identifies 2.2m acoustic walls be installed along the sections of proposed car parking that most impact neighbouring residential properties. A 2.2m acoustic barrier was initially proposed along the frontage of Parker Street the northern edge of new car parking area to prevent noise impacts from the car park resulting on adjacent residences during the night. However, parking demand at the hospital overnight is considerably less than daytime, it is considered appropriate to remove the requirement for an acoustic barrier on the basis that 28 spaces located in the north western corner are not used between 7.00pm and 7.00am. A suitable condition has been applied in this regard.

The acoustic assessment was reviewed by Council's Environmental Health Officer and suitable conditions recommended.

- Natural hazards A bushfire hazard assessment was submitted with application and referred to the NSW RFS as integrated development. General Terms of Approval were issued on 18 January 2023 and included in the draft consent. Refer to Attachment A.
- Safety, security and crime prevention The proposed development is unlikely to create adverse concealment/entrapment areas or crime spots that would result in any identifiable loss of safety or reduction of security as a result of the alterations and additions. Additional security by way of lighting and/or CCTV could be retrospectively installed by the operator should further security be required.
- **Social impact** The development will have a positive benefit by providing additional health care facilities for the region.
- **Economic impact** The proposal is not considered to have any significant adverse economic impacts on the locality. A likely positive impact is employment as a result of construction and staff required for ongoing operation of the hospital.
- **Site design and internal design** The proposed development design satisfactorily responds to the site attributes and fits in with the locality.
- Construction Construction impacts are considered capable of being managed through standard conditions of consent noting that extended periods of excavation and piling will not be required.

A Draft Construction Staging and Management Plan has been submitted. The draft plan provides an overview of demolition and construction phases. The establishment phase will include a site compound at the south western corner of the site and new car parking area at north eastern corner. The main areas of works are shown below.



Assessment Report: PPSNTH DA2022 - 901.1 Port Macquarie Private Hospital 3 November 2023

It is recommended that a final plan be submitted prior to commencement of work to address matters below:

- Notification of neighbours of commencement and likely time frames for construction.
- Alternative arrangements for access and parking for staff and visitors, as appropriate.
- Construction traffic, access and parking.
- Dust control measures and noise control measures
- Hours of work
- Complaint handling procedures
- Name and contact details for the Site Manager/Certifier

A copy of the final plan to be provided on the Port Macquarie Private Hospital web site for the duration of the works.

A suitable condition of consent has been included, refer to **Attachment A.**

• **Cumulative impacts** – The proposed development is not considered to result in significant cumulative impact on the natural environment.

3.3 Section 4.15(1)(c) - Suitability of the site

The proposal will fit into the locality and site is considered suitable for the proposed development.

3.4 Section 4.15(1)(d) - Public Submissions

Submissions are considered in Section 4.3 of this report.

3.5 Section 4.15(1)(e) - Public interest

The public interest is served by the orderly and economic use of land for appropriate uses. The expansion health services at the current hospital site is considered favourable to the broader community and in the public interest. The expansion of facilities to cater for additional demand created by population growth will assist to attract a range of specialty medical services to Port Macquarie and has potential for improved medical outcomes for local residents.

The Private Hospital Chief Executive Officer, Moira Finch, has provided a supporting statement that includes examples of benefits to the community as a result of the development. An extract is provided below:

'I am writing to provide insight into the benefits for the community of the proposed development of Port Macquarie Private Hospital. I consider the development will have multifactorial benefits. These will include:

- Supporting the Public Hospital and providing improved patient flow which will reduce the pressures experienced at the Base Hospital post COVID 19
- Keeping pace with the private health care needs of the existing and significantly increasing population within our community
- Providing new opportunities for joint appointments across the public and private hospital to attract new medical Specialists to the region

- New Doctor recruitment for the region, providing greater options for the community and
- Reducing the need for travel to major city centres
- Improved customer experience for our Patients with onsite Pharmacology for prescriptions on discharge
- On site radiology to improve patient experience and reduce transfers to Highfields and Public hospital precinct
- Support for local university and TAFE students attending our facility for placements
- Increased job opportunities with the growth of services within the hospital, particularly high skilled clinical roles
- Flow on effects for the community by investing significantly in capital works which will have spin offs for local trade and commercial entities.'

The development is also considered consistent with the principles of Ecologically sustainable development as follows:

- The precautionary principle
- Intergenerational equity
- Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity
- Improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms

The principles of ESD require that a balance needs to be struck between the man-made development and the need to retain the natural vegetation. Based on the assessment provided in the report and with recommended conditions of consent, it is considered an appropriate balance has been struck.

The proposal is not considered to be vulnerable to any risks associated with climate change.

Overall, the proposed development satisfies relevant planning controls and will not have any significant adverse impacts on the wider public interest subject to conditions of consent, as recommended.

4. REFERRALS AND SUBMISSIONS

4.1 Agency Referrals and Concurrence

The development application has been referred to various agencies for comment/concurrence/referral as required by the EP&A Act and outlined below in **Table 5**.

Table 5: Concurrence and Referrals to agencies

Agency	Concurrence/ referral trigger	Comments (Issue, resolution, conditions)	Resolved
Concurrence F	Requirements (s4.13 of EP&A Act)		
Environment, Energy & Science Group within DPIE	S7.12(2) - Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016	Referral not required.	NA

Referral/Consultation Agencies				
Essential Energy	Chapter 2: Infrastructure Section 2.48(2) (Determination of development applications—other development)	Comments received and provided to the applicant. Initial safety concerns raised by EE in connection with setbacks, potential damage to the substation and proximity of underground power lines have been resolved. Suitable conditions of consent are proposed.	Yes	
Integrated Dev	elopment (S 4.46 of the EP&A Ac	et)		
RFS	S100B - Rural Fires Act 1997 bush fire safety authority for development of land for special fire protection purposes.	General term of approval have been issued and Bushfire Safety Authority under section 100B issued.	Yes	
Transport for NSW	S138 - Roads Act 1993 for works in the road reserve.	Not a Classified Road. Council is the road authority.	NA	
Heritage NSW	S58 of the Heritage Act 1977 for demolition or works etc to an item listed on State Heritage Register or with an interim heritage order.	Not a Heritage item.	NA	

The development application has been referred to Essential Energy and NSW Rural Fire Service required by the EP&A Act and outlined below in Table 5.

There are no outstanding issues arising from these concurrence and referral requirements subject to the imposition of the recommended conditions of consent being imposed.

4.2 Council Officer Referrals

The development application has been referred to various Council officers for technical review as outlined **Table 6**.

Table 6: Consideration of Council Referrals

Officer	Comments	Resolved
Storm Water	Council's Storm Water Officer has reviewed the application and raised no concerns with the proposal subject to recommended conditions of consent.	Yes
Traffic and Parking	Council's Traffic Engineering Officer reviewed the proposal and considered the additional information in relation to traffic generation and car parking. These issues are considered in more detail in section 3.2 of report.	Yes

Environmental Health	Additional information was received regarding the acoustic assessment and potential contamination: asbestos. These issues are considered in more detail in the section 3.2 of this report. Council's Environmental Health Officer has reviewed the information and recommended suitable conditions of consent.	Yes
Building	Council's Building Surveyor has reviewed the proposal. Standard conditions regarding demolition and construction included in the draft conditions.	Yes
Water & Sewer	Council's water and sewer has reviewed the proposal and recommended that final demand be determined by a hydraulic consultant. Further modelling will be required as augmentation of existing infrastructure is considered to be likely. Appropriate conditions are recommended to reinforce the above.	Yes
Ecology	Additional information was received including a Koala Development Assessment Report. This matter is considered in section 3.2 of this report. Council's Ecologist has reviewed the information and recommended suitable conditions of consent.	Yes
Tree Removal & Protection	Council's Arborist has reviewed the tree assessment report submitted with the application and recommended suitable conditions of consent.	Yes
Waste	The submitted waste management plan is considered acceptable.	Yes

4.3 Community Consultation

The proposal was notified in accordance with the Council's Community Participation Plan from 3 November 2022 until 2 December 2022. The notification included the following:

- Notification letters sent to adjoining and adjacent properties.
- Notification on the Council's website.

A total of 6 unique submissions were received, some submitted with joint signatories, all comprising objections.

Amended plans and supporting documents were submitted on 14 September 2023 and the application was re-notified from 22 September to 8 October 2023 to those people who had made a submission during the first notification period. 3 unique submissions were received including 2 with multiple signatories, all comprising objections. Some of the signatories had made a submission during the first notification period.

The key issues raised in these submissions are referred to below.

Table 6: Community Submissions

Issue	Council Comments
Current shortage of parking at the site and inadequate provision of additional parking to cater for the proposed development.	The parking survey indicates that current parking at the site peaks during the middle of the day on a weekday with spaces generally available before 10.00am and after 1.00pm. The TIA recommends 32 additional car parking spaces to meet additional demand created by the overall development. 33 additional spaces are proposed at Stage 1 of the development. A new pedestrian path will link the Lake Road and Parker Street frontages and improve access to on site parking.
	Outcome : This issue has been addressed in part via the provision of additional car parking at the north east corner of the site and new staff car parking at the south western corner of the site.
Concern about ongoing access to The Grange building (82 Lake Road), including access for ambulances.	The applicant has advised that access and parking for 'The Grange' will be available during the construction phase. A Construction Management Plan is recommended to address notification of neighbours and parking arrangements during construction.
	Outcome : This issue has been satisfactorily addressed subject to the imposition of relevant recommended condition of consent.
Fifteen (15) of the current 123 car parking spaces referred to in the application form part of a parking easement that be benefits The Grange and therefore only 108 spaces are currently provided for the private hospital.	'The Grange' site benefits from an easement for parking and access located on the western side of 'The Grange' building. This does not restrict use by the hospital (landowner) and is considered a shared arrangement. 'The Grange' also has 23 marked spaces at the eastern side of building with access from Parker Street. Outcome: This issue has been addressed in the Parking and Manoeuvring section of the report.
Concern that the current café was not approved by Council.	The change of use of the former hospital board room to kiosk has not been considered as part of the subject application. The subject application includes a new café area located adjacent to the Lake Road entry. Outcome: This issue has been satisfactorily
	addressed. Suitable conditions related to operation of the food premises have been included.
Additional car parking required for Stage 1 to serve the medical imaging, pharmacy, consulting suites and café.	Additional car parking to serve Stage 1 of the development is proposed.

	Outcome : This issue has been addressed via provision of 33 additional car parking spaces at Stage 1.
Consulting suites could be occupied by multiple consultants.	Additional parking generated by the new first floor medical suites has been considered in the TIA. Additional doctors, staff and visitors have been considered.
	Outcome : This issue has been addressed subject to the imposition of relevant recommended conditions of consent related to provision of car parking to serve the development.
Inadequate car parking will impact on residents in Parker Street, Mayfair Road and Chelsea Place.	Potential impact on adjoining land uses has been considered in the Parking and Manoeuvring section of this report.
Concern about illegal parking on Council's reserve.	Outcome : This issue has been addressed subject to the imposition of relevant recommended conditions of consent related to staging and provision of car parking.
Concern that the TIA contains misleading information and survey results. Question the travel mode survey that found that only 26% of patients drive to the site. A higher proportion	The hospital currently provides a mix of services for both in-patients, who stay overnight and out-patients, who visit during the day for services like rehabilitation/hydrotherapy. Patients who have surgery/procedures that involve anaesthetic are likely to be dropped off and picked up.
of patients are likely to drive to the consulting suits.	Outcome : The TIA has recommended additional parking based on demand generated for the components of the new development. Additional doctors, staff and visitors to the consulting rooms have been factored into the assessment.
Concern that access for emergency vehicles to adjacent streets is impact by cars parked on both sides of	Potential impact on adjacent residents and heath consulting rooms has been considered in the Parking and Manoeuvring section of the report.
Parker Street vehicles	Outcome : This issue has been satisfactorily addressed subject to the imposition of relevant recommended conditions of consent related to staging and provision of car parking.
The application does not address existing services and easements for power and telecommunications across the hospital site that serve 'The Grange'.	The applicant has advised that the existing easements and services can be accommodated by the proposed works. Potential relocation of services and extinguishment of the existing easements for telephone and electricity is a matter for the landowners to resolve.
	Outcome: Services will continue to be provided.

The The plans have been amended to remove reference acoustic and landscaping reports include to works on 'The Grange' land. A suitable condition of 'The Grange' property as consent has been included to ensure planting does part of the hospital site and not extend onto adjoining property. propose construction acoustic barriers on 'The Outcome: This issue has been satisfactorily Grange' property. addressed. Concern service It is recommended that a Final Construction about vehicle and tradespeople Management Plan be required prior to works using 'The Grange' carpark commencing that addresses potential impacts on access the private neighbouring properties associated the construction phase including the management of trades and hospital site. subcontractors. Outcome: This issue has been satisfactorily addressed subject to the imposition of relevant recommended conditions of consent. Concern about loss of car The applicant has confirmed that the shared car parking and access at 'The parking area off Lake Road will remain in available during the construction phase. Furthermore, it is Grange' during construction. recommended that a Final Construction Management Plan be required prior to works commencing that addresses potential impacts on neighbouring properties associated the construction phase including parking. **Outcome**: This issue has been satisfactorily addressed subject to the imposition of relevant recommended conditions of consent. Concern about disruption Standard conditions regarding hours of work and and impact on adjoining noise from construction activities are recommended, business and residences furthermore a Final Construction Management Plan is resulting from construction required to address additional matters prior to works noise and dust. commencing. This issue has been satisfactorily Outcome: addressed subject to the imposition of relevant recommended conditions of consent. Future development of adjacent sites would be Concern that redevelopment of 'The subject to separate assessment, including traffic and Grange' building would be parking. stymied by congestion and parking problems. Outcome: This issue has been satisfactorily addressed. Concern about additional The northern driveway off Parker Street will be utilised wear and tear on the shared to access 15 car parking spaces at the north eastern corner of the site. It should be noted that 12 existing driveway at the rear of 'The Grange' as a result of the spaces are currently accessed via the driveway.

new parking area created after demolition Pre admissions building.	Maintenance of the right of access is a matter for the landowners to resolve between the parties.	
admissions building.	Outcome: This issue is a matter to be resolved between the landowners.	
Noise impacts in relation to mechanical and electrical plant.	Suitable conditions are recommended to require certification of plant as identified in the Noise and Vibration Assessment submitted with the application.	
Noise impacts resulting from servicing of the site	Suitable conditions have been applied to address hours of waste servicing to reduce impacts on adjoining residents.	
including waste collection and gas cylinder refilling.	Outcome : This issue has been satisfactorily addressed subject to the imposition of relevant recommended conditions of consent.	
Concern about overlooking of residential courtyards from the new first floor (east).	windows at the southern end of the first floor to be	
	Outcome : This issue has been satisfactorily addressed.	
Concerned about the overall height of the southern elevation and impact on views to the north.	The overall height of the proposed first floor extension at the Parker Street side of the building complies with height of building controls for the site.	
views to the north.	Views from the single storey villas at Parker street are obscured by existing boundary fencing and the proposal is not considered to have significant adverse impact on views.	
	Outcome : This issue has been satisfactorily addressed.	

4.4 Panel Deferral Matters

An assessment report was presented to the Northern Region Planning Panel meeting on 2 August 2023. The Panel deferred the determination to allow for the matters listed below to be addressed. Amended plans and supporting documents were submitted on 14 September 2023 in response to the matters raised by the Panel. A copy of the response prepared by Think Planners, on behalf of the applicant, is provided at **Attachment J.**

1. Confirmation of on-site car parking requirements for each stage and analysis to justify the proposed number and location of spaces, including during construction.

An updated TIA was submitted on 14 September 2023. Car parking requirements and analysis for each stage and the location of spaces is discussed in Section 3.2 Parking and Manoeuvring below. All additional car parking (33 spaces) will be provided at Stage 1 of the development.

2. Draft Construction Management Plans, including staging and separation of work zones and operational elements of the hospital and adjoining development.

A draft plan has been submitted and is discussed in Section 3.2 Construction. The draft plan provides an overview of demolition and construction phases. It is recommended that a final plan be submitted prior to commencement of work and that the plan be available on the Private Hospital web page for the duration of the project.

3. Clarification of proposed final staff and consultant numbers.

A summary of staff and consultant numbers during peak periods is provided below and accords with information submitted as part of the TIA. Refer to Page 5 of **Attachment J**, extract below.

		Current Staff Numbers	Stage 1 Staff/Doctor Additions	Stage 2 Staff/Doctor Additions
Hospital	Doctors	18	3	3
Hospital	Staff	125	5	10
c li:	Doctors	0	6	0
Consulting	Staff	0	5	0
Imaging	Staff	0	4	0
Pharmacy	Staff	0	1	0

Stage 1 Doctor Additions	9
Stage 1 Staff Additions	15
Stage 2 Doctor Additions	3
Stage 2 Staff Additions	10
Total Doctor Additions	12
Total Staff Additions	25

4. Landscaping treatment general, but particularly along the southern boundary, Lake Road and Parker Street and car parks.

Landscaping has been balanced with creating an attractive streetscape and maximising onsite parking.

Planting of replacement koala food trees is proposed adjacent to the southern boundary. Additional planting has not been proposed, noting the requirement to also balance bushfire safety and proximity to sewer infrastructure in that part of the site.

There is limited opportunity for additional planting within the site at the Parker Street frontage as the existing hedge is located on the site boundary. A small additional area at the eastern end of the car park has been identified for planting between the 2 northern driveways.

New planting is proposed adjacent to the Lake Road frontage for the full length of the car park. These works will significantly improve the appearance of the site when viewed from the street.

DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Section 7.11 Contributions

The development does not contain any residential component. As a result, s7.11 contributions do not apply.

Section 7.12 Contributions

In assessing s7.12 contributions, Council staff have reviewed the development in accordance with the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council Development Contributions Assessment Policy (DCAP) and the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council Section 94A (now s7.12) Levy Contributions Plan 2007.

The proposed development will comprise alterations and additions to hospital and is deemed to increase the demand for public amenities/services. As a result, s7.12 contributions apply and a condition of consent has been imposed to ensure payment. See **Attachment A**.

An estimate for the total development as proposed is included as **Attachment H.** An estimate for Stage 1 only is included as **Attachment I**

Section 64 Water and Sewer Contributions

In assessing s64 water and sewer contributions, Council staff have reviewed the development in accordance with the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council Development Contributions Assessment Policy (DCAP) and applicable Development Servicing Plans.

A contribution credit applies for demolition of the Pre admission Clinic (former PM Eye Care Building) and this has been factored into the into contribution calculations for the total development but will depend on the timing of the decommissioning of the use of the building.

Having considered the above, the proposed development will increase the demand on water and sewer services. As a result, s64 contributions apply and a condition of consent has been imposed to ensure payment. See conditions **Attachment A**. An estimate is included as **Attachment H** and **Attachment I** to show the contribution amounts payable.

5. KEY ISSUES

The following key issues are relevant to the assessment of this application having considered the relevant planning controls and the proposal in detail:

6.1 Adequacy of proposed car parking to serve the development.

Additional demand created at Stage 1 equates to 17 spaces based on the TIA. 33 additional spaces are proposed. All additional spaces are proposed at Stage 1. This would result in an extra 16 spaces available on site as part of Stage 1 ahead of completion of Stage 2.

The total additional spaces proposed in Stage 2 would provide an overall 159 spaces with no shortfall of spaces based on the TIA.

<u>Resolution</u>: The issue has been resolved through revised staging and provision of additional car parking.

6.2 Impact of operational and construction noise on adjoining properties.

Ongoing operation of the site and potential construction impacts are considered capable of being managed through standard conditions of consent noting that extended periods of excavation and piling will not be required.

Furthermore, a Draft Construction Staging & Management Plan Management Plan has been submitted. It is noted that final arrangements will be subject to the selection of the preferred contractor.

It is recommended that a final plan address matters below, prior to commencement of work including:

- Notification of neighbours of commencement and likely time frames for construction.
- Alternative arrangements for access and parking staff and visitors.
- Construction traffic, access and parking.
- Management of noise and dust.

<u>Resolution</u>: The issue has been resolved through recommended conditions of consent that requires a final construction management plan.

CONCLUSION

This development application has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the EP&A Act and the Regulations as outlined in this report. Following a thorough assessment of the relevant planning controls, issues raised in submissions and the key issues identified in this report, it is considered that the application can be partially supported.

Following assessment of the development application and taking into account the issues raised in submissions from the community and Council officers, it was recommended that the consent be granted

It is considered that the key issues as outlined in Section 6 have been resolved satisfactorily. Following a detailed assessment of the proposal, pursuant to the Act, it is recommended that **consent** be granted, pursuant to Section 4.16 and subject to the conditions contained at **Attachment A** of this report.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Development Application (DA2022 - 901.1) for staged alterations and additions to private hospital at 84 to 96 Lake Road, Port Macquarie be APPROVED pursuant to Section 4.16(1)(a) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* subject to the draft conditions of consent attached this report at **Attachment A.**

The following attachments are provided:

- Attachment A: Draft Conditions of consent
- Attachment B: SEPP (Industry and Employment) Signage and DCP 2013 Table of Compliance
- Attachment C: Architectural Plans
- Attachment D: Landscape Plans
- Attachment E: Traffic Impact Assessment
- Attachment F: Noise and Vibration Assessment
- Attachment G: Arboricultural Assessment & Addendum
- Attachment H: Contributions Estimate Total Development
- Attachment I: Contributions Estimate Stage 1 only
- Attachment J: Additional Information Cover Letter Think Planners
- Attachment K: Draft Construction Staging & Management Plan