

# **DETERMINATION AND STATEMENT OF REASONS**

NORTHERN REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL

DATE OF DETERMINATION	20 December 2021
DATE OF PANEL DECISION	19 December 2021
PANEL MEMBERS	Penny Holloway (Chair), Stephen Gow, Marcia Doheny, Ned Wales and John Byrne
APOLOGIES	Paul Mitchell and Stephen Phillips
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	None

Papers circulated electronically on 9 December 2021.

#### **MATTER DETERMINED**

PPSNTH-91– Tweed – DA21/0312 at 4-10 Heffron St, Tweed Heads South – new facilities Tweed River High School (as described in Schedule 1)

## PANEL CONSIDERATION AND DECISION

The panel considered: the matters listed at item 6, the material listed at item 7 and the material presented at meetings and briefings and the matters observed at site inspections listed at item 8 in Schedule 1.

## **Development application**

The panel determined to approve the development application pursuant to section 4.16 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The decision was unanimous.

#### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The panel determined to approve the application for the following reasons:

- 1. The proposal is consistent with the objectives of the R2 (Low Density Residential) zone and objectives of the development standards for height and floor space ratio under Tweed Shire Local Environment Plan 2014 and the objectives of the Tweed Shire Development Control Plan.
- 2. The proposed development meets Clause 35(6) and Schedule 4 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Educational Establishments and Child Care Facilities) 2017 and is generally consistent with the design quality principles for an educational building facility.
- 3. The proposed development meets the provisions of applicable SEPPs in relation to remediation, infrastructure and coastal management with appropriate conditions. It meets the requirements of the SEPP (Koala Habitat Protection) with appropriate offsets.
- 4. The proposed development has no impact on adjoining properties as it is located centrally within the school grounds and is surrounded by other school and community buildings.
- 5. Acid sulfate soils will be managed in accordance with an approved Acid Sulfate Soil Management
- 6. The Panel notes that the existing School campus is flood prone and that the design will incorporate an above PMF flood refuge for use by the School community if required. Nevertheless the Panel is advised by the Council that no further special flood management protocols are required for this non-habitable development pursuant to Council's DCP A3.
- 7. The concurrence of the Crown applicant has been received to the proposed conditions of consent.
- 8. The proposed development improves the provision of educational services and is in the public interest.

## **Panel comments**

The Panel notes the importance of schools as community infrastructure which can form a positive element in the lives of students and the broader community.

There is a complex series of current applications for this site and the lack of information about the overall plans for the site made it challenging for the Panel to understand this proposal in context.

It would assist in assessing future applications if development applications could be accompanied by more contextual and strategic information. This should include a description of all existing and future development proposals for the site including a copy of any masterplan and information about how each proposal will:

- 1. Deliver climatically appropriate built forms;
- 2. Enhance the relationship with and engagement by its surrounding community;
- 3. Have regard to Aboriginal culture;
- 4. Include public surveillance and enhance the safety of surrounding areas;
- 5. Connect to adjoining facilities; and
- 6. Facilitate flexibility, expansion and/or future change in desirable ways.

Detailed information about student and community engagement in the development of designs is also important.

## **CONDITIONS**

The development application was approved subject to the conditions attached to the council memorandum of 14 December 2021 with the following amendment:

• Amend Condition 9 by removing the word 'under', to correct a minor typographical error.

## **CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNITY VIEWS**

In coming to its decision, the panel notes that no written submissions were made during public exhibition and therefore no issues of concern were raised.

PANEL MEMBERS			
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Penny Holloway (Chair)	Stephen Gow		
Marcia Doheny	Ned Wales		
John Byrne			

SCHEDULE 1			
1	PANEL REF – LGA – DA NO.	PPSNTH-91– Tweed – DA21/0312	
2	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	Alterations and additions to the existing Tweed River High School	
3	STREET ADDRESS	4-10 Heffron St, Tweed Heads South	
4	APPLICANT	School Infrastructure NSW	
_	OWNER	Department of School Education and Training	
5	TYPE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Crown development over \$5 million	
6	RELEVANT MANDATORY CONSIDERATIONS	<ul> <li>Environmental planning instruments:         <ul> <li>State Environmental Planning Policy - Remediation of Land</li> <li>State Environmental Planning Policy - (Coastal Management) 2018</li> <li>State Environmental Planning Policy - (Infrastructure) 2007</li> <li>State Environmental Planning Policy - (Education and Childcare) 2017</li> <li>State Environmental Planning Policy - (State and Regional Development) 2011</li> <li>State Environmental Planning Policy - (Koala Habitat Protection) 2020</li> <li>Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2014</li> </ul> </li> <li>Draft environmental planning instruments: Nil</li> <li>Development control plans:         <ul> <li>Tweed Development Control Plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>Planning agreements: Nil</li> <li>Provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000: Nil</li> <li>Coastal zone management plan: Nil</li> <li>The likely impacts of the development, including environmental impacts on the natural and built environment and social and economic impacts in the locality</li> <li>The suitability of the site for the development</li> <li>Any submissions made in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 or regulations</li> </ul>	
7	MATERIAL CONSIDERED BY THE PANEL	<ul> <li>development</li> <li>Council assessment report: 8 December 2021</li> <li>Council memorandum: 14 December 2021</li> </ul>	
		Written submissions during public exhibition: nil	
8	MEETINGS, BRIEFINGS AND SITE INSPECTIONS BY THE PANEL	<ul> <li>Briefing: 18 August 2021         <ul> <li>Panel members: Paul Mitchell (Chair), Penny Holloway, Stephen Gow and Ned Wales</li> <li>Council assessment staff: Colleen Forbes, Michael Banks, Vince Connell and Lindsay McGavin</li> <li>Department staff: Jane Gibbs, Amanda Moylan and Lisa Foley</li> </ul> </li> <li>Final briefing to discuss council's recommendation: 16 December 2021         <ul> <li>Panel members: Penny Holloway (Chair), Stephen Gow, Marcia Doheny, Ned Wales and John Byrne</li> <li>Council assessment staff: Lydia Charman, Angie Cousens and Colleen Forbes</li> <li>Department staff: Carolyn Hunt and Lisa Foley</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

		<ul> <li>Applicant Briefing: 16 December 2021         <ul> <li>Panel members: Penny Holloway (Chair), Stephen Gow, Marcia Doheny, Ned Wales and John Byrne</li> <li>Council assessment staff: Lydia Charman, Angie Cousens and Colleen Forbes</li> <li>Department staff: Carolyn Hunt and Lisa Foley</li> <li>Applicant representatives: Ellen Robertshaw, Gareth James, Lincoln Lawler, Lauren Choong and Glenn O'Loughlin</li> <li>Note: Applicant briefing was requested to respond to the recommendation in the council assessment report</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
9	COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION	Approval
10	DRAFT CONDITIONS	Attached to the Council memorandum dated 14 December 2021