

15 July 2020

Ms Kristine McKenzie  
Principle Executive Planner  
The Hills Shire Council  
Administration Centre  
3 Columbia Court  
Norwest NSW 2153

Dear Kristine

**DA 709/2020/JP Castle Towers Stage 3 Expansion - Zones 3 & 4**

We refer to the above development application and Council's email of 7th July 2020 seeking QIC's intentions in respect of progressing the application.

As noted in our advice on the 5th May 2020, QIC requested that the above application be placed on hold pending the lodgement of replacement documentation. We acknowledge that some time has elapsed since our initial advice of the proposed substitution which has been the result of QIC's concerns around the impacts of COVID 19 on the retail environment.

QIC is close to finalising our business planning and is expecting to instruct the preparation of new development documentation before the end of July. It is anticipated that this will take in the order of 10 – 12 weeks to finalise and lodge.

Given Council's advice regarding SCCPP's instructions to determine outstanding applications, we confirm that we wish to withdraw the above application and request that the development application fees be refunded. We acknowledge that a significant amount of Council resources have been spent on the above application and suggest that a quarter of Council's Development application fee, i.e. \$109,080.71, be retained by Council to cover the costs incurred. This is consistent with advice from Council on the 5th May 2020 of the additional fee payable for the substituted documents had these been lodged sooner.

We note that QIC will need to apply directly to NSW Planning for the refund of the Planning Reform Fee.

We will keep you informed as to progress on the amended (new) development application and confirm the expected date of lodgement closer to the time.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ian Coltman', is written over a blue circular stamp.

**Mr Ian Coltman**  
Portfolio General Manager - NSW  
E: i.coltman@qic.com