

9 February 2023

Strategic Planning Team
City of Newcastle
PO Box 489
Newcastle NSW 2300

Attn: Peter Milles, pmilles@ncc.nsw.gov.au

**RE: SINSW SUBMISSION – PLANNING PROPOSAL FOR 505 MINMI ROAD,
FLETCHER**

Dear Mr. Milles,

School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW), as part of Department of Education (DoE), welcomes City of Newcastle Council's (Council) invitation to provide comments on the Planning Proposal for 505 Minmi Road, Fletcher (the draft Proposal).

SINSW understand that the draft Proposal seeks to amend the *Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012* (NLEP 2012) to rezone the site from C4 Environmental Living to a mixture of R2 Low Density Residential and C2 Environmental Conservation to facilitate residential and conservation outcomes. The proposal will result in approximately 140 additional residential dwellings.

SINSW has reviewed the draft Proposal and have provide detailed feedback in the attachment below. Should you require further information about this submission, please contact the SINSW Strategic Planning Team on StrategicPlanning@det.nsw.edu.au.

Yours Sincerely,



Lincoln Lawler
Director, Statutory Planning and Sustainability, SINSW



**ATTACHMENT – SINSW SUBMISSION –
PLANNING PROPOSAL FOR 505 MINMI ROAD, FLETCHER**

Educational Facilities

While it is likely that the enrolment demand stemming from the draft proposal can be accommodated within the schools surrounding the site (Minmi Public School and Glendore Public School), the draft proposal must be considered in the context of the growth proposed for the wider LGA, as part of the surrounding Urban Release Areas (URAs) and other development projects, which will likely need to be supported by additional educational infrastructure. Noting the above schools already rely on demountable teaching spaces to meet demand, SINSW is in the process of reviewing this growth in order to identify appropriate solutions to accommodate future projected enrolment demand. This will ensure that existing schools are fully utilised before new schools are considered.

SINSW is committed to working with Council to ensure schools are supporting community needs and continue to be appropriately resourced to respond to student population changes. As a result, SINSW requests ongoing engagement with Council regarding any future growth and change identified for the locality.

Transport and Access

SINSW requests that transport planning for the study area be guided by the NSW Government's Movement and Place Framework (MAPF) and its Built Environment Performance Indicators. These indicators are based on qualities that contribute to a well-designed built environment and should be used by proponents in the formulation of transport concepts.

The MAPF's core 'Amenity and Use' and 'Primary Schools' Built Environment Indicators are of particular importance to SINSW, as these encourage urban designers to consider the impact on adjacent places/uses, as well as emphasising movement that supports place. The 'Primary Schools' indicator provides two specific metrics to judge the effect of infrastructure on the accessibility of public schools in an area; these being walkability and public transport access. These metrics require designers to assess whether proposed infrastructure facilitates access to primary school facilities (or public transport connections to schools) or whether it exacerbates gaps in the network.

The primary school-focused MAPF amenity indicator can be accessed via the link below:

<https://www.movementandplace.nsw.gov.au/place-and-network/built-environment-indicators/primary-schools>

It is also requested that active transport links to existing schools within the neighbourhood be investigated and delivered as part of the proposal or future development approvals.