



Received by IPC
Thursday
30 September 2021

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Professor Mary O'Kane AC
Chair
Independent Planning Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Professor O'Kane

Weigall Sports Complex (SSD-10421)

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (the Department) has completed its assessment of the merits of the application for the proposed Weigall Sports Complex at Neild Avenue, Rushcutters Bay (SSD-10421), lodged by Sydney Grammar School (the Applicant).

In accordance with clause 8A of the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 and section 4.5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), the application is referred to the Independent Planning Commission (the Commission) for determination, as the Department received more than 50 unique public submissions objecting to the development.

The Department exhibited the application and accompanying Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) from 12 November to 10 December 2020 (37 days) and extended by eight days until 18 December 2020. During this period, the Department received a total of 102 submissions. This included 10 submissions from public authorities (comments from Woollahra Council (Council) and the adjoining City of Sydney Council), 88 individual public submissions including one from Alex Greenwich MP (72 objections), and four submissions from special interest groups (three objections).

On 26 April 2021, the Applicant submitted a Response to Submissions (RtS), to address issues raised in the submissions. The Department did not formally exhibit the RtS but made the documents publicly available on the Department's website. The Department received nine additional submissions including seven from public authorities (including Council), and two submissions from the public.

In response to further concerns raised by the Department, the Applicant submitted multiple supplementary RtS between June and September 2021.

In assessing the merits of the project, the Department considered the environmental, social and economic impacts of the proposal, the submissions received on the EIS and RtS, relevant environmental planning instruments, the suitability of the site for the project and the public interest, in accordance with the EP&A Act.

Based on its assessment, the Department considers that the project is approvable subject to the recommended conditions of consent.



A copy of the Department's assessment report and all other publicly made documents relevant for the Commission's consideration is available on the Department's major project website:
<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/26741>

For any further information or to arrange a briefing, please contact Karen Harragon – Director, Social and Infrastructure Assessments on (02) 9274 6358.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Erica van den Honert'.

Erica van den Honert
Executive Director
Infrastructure Assessments
Planning and Assessment