

John Holman (WUFA)

From: John Holman WUFA <president@warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au>
Sent: Monday, 14 July 2014 10:00 AM
To: 'Peter.Robinson@warringah.nsw.gov.au'
Cc: 'councillors@warringah.nsw.gov.au'
Subject: Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North Strategic Review
Attachments: WUFA Letter to Council 30 June 2014.pdf; Media_release_May_2014_Highlighted.pdf; FAQ_Northern_Councils_EZone_FAQ_Highlighted.pdf; Public Access Information Application.pdf; Information being sort under Government Information.pdf; Shayne Hutton Letter June 2014.pdf; Letter from Warringah Council 7 July 2014.pdf

Tracking: **Recipient**
'Peter.Robinson@warringah.nsw.gov.au'
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Cr Jose Menano-Pires
Cr Vincent De Luca
Cr Michael Regan
Cr Roslyn Harrison
Cr Sue Heins
Cr Wayne Gobert
Cr Duncan Kerr

Dear Mr Robinson,

Today we received the letter from you dated 7 July 2014 (1 week after the date of the letter). I have attached your letter to this email for the benefit of the councillors. As this issue is extremely important I would appreciate it if you could ensure we receive your responses in a timely manner (email is preferred).

Your letter dated 7 July 2014 does not address the third question that we have put to you. Can you please address this question (repeated below) as a matter of urgency:

- 3) As you can see from the attached GIPA request, WUFA has sought, amongst other things, any scientific verification that has been carried out on the constraints maps contained in the Draft Strategic Review document published by the Department of Planning. Can you please provide us with a copy of any scientific verification or evidence of the environmental values of the land in the deferred area?

Below is an extract (page 28) from the Non Urban Lands Study undertaken by Warringah Council. This refers to the Smith & Smith report (referred to also as the P & J Smith ecological consultant's report). Can you please provide us with a copy of the Smith & Smith report referred to in the Non Urban Lands Study?

3.3 Mapping Environmental Values

Objectives for the long term management of the environmental values of the area are:

- to maintain the existing biological diversity of Warringah;
- to conserve threatened species and ecosystems of conservation value at a national and State level;
- to conserve areas considered to be significant as habitat corridors, and/or riparian zones;
- to ensure the long term health of Narrabeen Lagoon, and improve water quality by draining from the study area to Cowan Creek and Middle Harbour; and
- to maintain the existing natural drainage channels and value of the riparian environment in catchment management.

Figure 3 illustrates the environmental values of the study area including flora and fauna and catchment management issues. Non-urban land has been assessed into classes according to the perceived environmental value, defined and mapped as follows:

Class A - Disturbed land of lower conservation value.

Areas where the existing land is highly disturbed, cleared of native vegetation where vegetation is degraded to the point that environmental values have been severely degraded. Environmental values are therefore a minor consideration in planning to develop provided that appropriate planning controls have been satisfied. Approximately 41% of the land within the study area were categorised into class A.

Class B - Remnant bush which is common and well preserved within Warringah.

Areas with remnant native vegetation communities which are well represented throughout Warringah and in national parks. These areas include vegetation communities identified by Smith and Smith (1998) as being of third priority for conservation. Provided that appropriate planning controls have been satisfied and an ongoing management plan is adopted to ensure the sustainability of the proposed activity these lands could support a moderate level of development in terms of potential environmental impact. Approximately 49% of the land within the study area was categorised as being in Class B.

Class C - High environmental value within Warringah.

Areas with significant environmental values which are important for maintaining local biodiversity and catchment values. This class includes vegetation communities categorised by Smith and Smith (1998) as being of second priority for conservation.

Kind Regards,

John Holman

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