

Mr John Holman
President
Warringah Urban Fringe Association
PO Box 125
Belrose NSW 2085

15/07417

Dear Mr Holman

Thank you for writing to me on 19 April 2015 and your further email of 12 May 2015 regarding the proposed zoning of land within the Oxford Falls and Belrose North area.

As you are aware, Warringah Council has submitted a planning proposal to the Department of Planning and Environment seeking a Gateway determination to translate the deferred lands within the Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North area.

This planning proposal is available to view on the Department's website at <http://leptracking.planning.nsw.gov.au/PublicDetails.aspx?Id=2037>

The Department is currently undertaking an assessment of the planning proposal to ensure Council has adequately justified the proposed zones. The views of the community, including the Warringah Urban Fringe Association, will be considered in detail as part of the Department's assessment of the planning proposal, prior to it being forwarded to the Gateway for determination. The first five matters raised in your letter of 19 April 2015 are currently being considered by the Department in its assessment of the proposal. Should a Gateway determination be issued to allow the planning proposal to proceed, the proposal will be publicly exhibited for community comment.

In response to the other matters you raise, I note your concern about the potential conflict of interest affecting Ms Helen Wilkins of the Department. I can confirm that Ms Wilkins has had no direct involvement in the Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North Strategic Review or any related matter to date. The Department will continue to manage this potential conflict of interest in accordance with the Department's Disclosing Interests and Managing Conflicts of Interest Policy.

Under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*, a government agency, including Warringah Council, must make government information publicly available unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information. Formal access applications must include enough detail to allow the relevant agency to undertake the request. Information on formal access application discounts, including financial hardship and public interest grounds, is available on the Information and Privacy Commission website <http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/>

Once the Department has completed its assessment of the proposal, I would be happy to meet with representatives of the Association to respond to the representatives concerns.

I request that if the Warringah Urban Fringe Association reproduces this letter, it does so in full to avoid any potential misrepresentation of the content.

If you have any further enquiries about this matter, please contact Mr Lee Mulvey, Director of the Department's Metropolitan Region (East) team, on (02) 8575 4140.

Yours sincerely



Marcus Ray
Deputy Secretary
Planning Services

18/05/15