



**Warringah Urban Fringe Association Incorporated  
(WUFA),  
PO Box 125,  
Belrose, 2085  
Ph: 0419 777 502**

[www.warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au](http://www.warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au)

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19 April 2015,  
Ms Carolyn McNally,  
Secretary,  
Department of Planning & Environment,  
GPO Box 39,  
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Ms McNally,

**Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North Strategic Review, Warringah**

I am writing to you because we have not received an adequate response to a letter that we sent Marcus Ray on 19 April 2015.

The Warringah Urban Fringe Association (WUFA) was formed as a result of the proposed zoning of land in the "Deferred Area" of Warringah Local Government Area as an Environmental Protection zone. We boast an extraordinarily large membership, with over 90% of the landowners in the deferred area being members of WUFA.

The letter that we sent to Marcus Ray on 19 April was sent in response to previous communication that we have had with Mr Ray. Our letter of 19 April 2015 seeks to clarify the position of the Department of Planning in regards to key issues involved with the proposed zoning of the land in the deferred area. We sent Mr Ray multiple emails seeking a response to our letter and only managed to get the email response which is in Appendix A of this letter, after multiple attempts to get a response. The email response is an inadequate response to our request for specific information from the Department of Planning.

I now ask you to please formally provide a response to the issues that we raised in the letter to Marcus Ray, which are:

- 1) Will any land in the deferred area, that is of low to moderate environmental value be allowed to be zoned an environmental zone by the Department of Planning?
- 2) What scientific evidence will be required in order to justify zoning land as an environmental zone?
- 3) Is the Department of Planning of the view that evidence has been provided that justifies zoning any land in the deferred area as an environmental zone? If so can you please provide a copy of this evidence?

- 4) If owners of land in the deferred area have had independent reports produced by environmental experts stating that their land is of low to moderate environmental value, does this mean the Department of Planning will ensure that the said land will not be zoned an environmental zone?
- 5) Will land in the deferred area, that is currently zoned to include Seniors living as an allowable use under current zoning be allowed to be zoned an Environmental zone by the Department of Planning (thereby extinguishing the ability to have Seniors living)?
- 6) We note that Helen Wilkins currently works for the Department of Planning. Helen Wilkins was a Warringah Councillor from 2008 to 2012. During her time on Warringah Council, Helen Wilkins voiced strong views that the whole deferred area should be zoned E3. Helen Wilkins is currently the registered officer for the "Your Warringah" political party. The Your Warringah political party currently hold 6 of the 10 Councillor positions (including the Mayoral position) on Warringah Council. We seek your assurance that Helen Wilkins has had no involvement or influence over the Strategic Review, and that she will continue to have no involvement or influence over the Strategic Review, or any subsequent planning proposal determination.
- 7) I have made a GIPA request to Warringah Council for all documents and correspondence relating to the Strategic Review. Warringah Council originally provided 30 documents in response to the GIPA request. On my insistence there were more documents that had not been provided, Warringah Council provided a further 60 documents. Upon further insistence that there are many more documents, Warringah Council have now found in excess of 1500 documents relating to my original request. Warringah Council have stated they plan to charge me in excess of \$1,500 for the supply of this information. This unwillingness of Warringah Council to provide documents relating to the strategic review is a bad sign for openness in the Strategic review process for which the Department of Planning is a partner. I ask that the Department of Planning either pay the required fee for the documents to be released, or encourage Warringah council to release the documents free of charge.

I look forward to your response to these issues.

Yours sincerely,



**John Holman**

**President**

**Warringah Urban Fringe Association Inc. (WUFA)**

**Email: [president@warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au](mailto:president@warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au)**

## Appendix A – Email from Marcus Ray (12 May 2015)

**From:** Marcus Ray [mailto:Marcus.Ray@planning.nsw.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 May 2015 8:50 AM  
**To:** John Holman (WUFA)  
**Subject:** RE: Strategic Review into E3 zoning

Mr Holman

I was told last Friday that the Department had now received a planning proposal with request for a gateway decision from Warringah Council for the Oxford Falls and Belrose North lands.

I have asked Department staff to consider the questions you raised in your letter of 19 April 2015 in assessing whether the planning proposal should proceed to the gateway or whether further information is required from the Council before the proposal is submitted to gateway.

The Department will write to you setting out how the proposal will progress once this review has been completed..

Sincerely

Marcus Ray  
Deputy Secretary  
Planning Services  
Department of Planning & Environment  
23-33 Bridge Street | GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001  
T 02 9228 6396  
E: [marcus.ray@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:marcus.ray@planning.nsw.gov.au)



**From:** John Holman (WUFA) [mailto:[president@warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au](mailto:president@warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 May 2015 8:26 AM  
**To:** Marcus Ray  
**Subject:** FW: Strategic Review into E3 zoning

Dear Mr Ray,

When can we expect a reply to the attached letter?

Kind Regards,

John Holman  
President  
Warringah Urban Fringe Association Inc. (WUFA)  
PO Box 125,  
Belrose, 2085  
M: 0419 777 502  
E: [president@WarringahUrbanFringeAssociation.org.au](mailto:president@WarringahUrbanFringeAssociation.org.au)  
W: [www.warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au/](http://www.warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au/)

**From:** John Holman (WUFA) [<mailto:president@warringahurbanfringeassociation.org.au>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 19 April 2015 9:45 PM  
**To:** 'marcus.ray@planning.nsw.gov.au'  
**Subject:** Strategic Review into E3 zoning

Dear Mr Ray,

Please find attached a letter that I have written to you.

Kind Regards,

John Holman  
President  
Warringah Urban Fringe Association Inc. (WUFA)  
PO Box 125,  
Belrose, 2085  
M: 0419 777 502  
E: [president@WarringahUrbanFringeAssociation.org.au](mailto:president@WarringahUrbanFringeAssociation.org.au)  
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