



The Hon. Rob Stokes MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

Ref: MDPE19/3857

Mrs Wendy Tuckerman MP
Member for Goulburn
PO Box 168
GOULBURN NSW 2580

Dear Mrs Tuckerman

Wendy,

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of Mr William Ginn, Secretary of the 5km NSW ACT Border Zone Planning Group, regarding planning in the Yass Valley local government area.

I note Mr Ginn's concerns relating to Yass Valley Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), Yass Valley Settlement Strategy 2016 (the Strategy), and Parkwood planning proposal.

Council is assessing the submissions received during the exhibition of its LSPS, including from Mr Ginn and other local landowners. The LSPS is required to be finalised by 1 July 2020. As part of its assurance role, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (the Department) will ensure the LSPS is consistent with the South East and Tablelands Regional Plan. I would encourage Mr Ginn to continue liaising with Council about the group's concerns regarding the LSPS before it reaches the final stage of the process.


The Department endorsed the Strategy in September 2018, except for the proposed RU6 Transition zone, subject to conditions such as requiring any future planning proposal for greenfield urban development in Murrumbateman to demonstrate that a secure water supply is available. As part of the Department's conditions, planning proposals for urban release areas for sites identified in the Strategy must also be supported by appropriate studies or assessments to justify inconsistencies with Ministerial Directions for local plan making.

Council recently submitted the Parkwood planning proposal to the Department for finalisation. The Department will now assess the planning proposal to determine its final outcome.

Mr Ginn may wish to raise the group's concerns about the conduct of councillors with the Office of Local Government (OLG), which has investigative powers under the *Local Government Act 1993*. OLG can provide advice in relation to the *Model Code of Conduct* for councillors, including the requirements relating to declarations of interests, and can be contacted on 4428 4100 or at olg@olg.nsw.gov.au.

Should Mr Ginn have further questions in relation to the NSW Government's role in planning in the Yass Valley, he is welcome to contact Ms Sarah Lees, Director Southern Region, at the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment on 4247 1810.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rob Stokes', written over the typed name.

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