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12 February 2019

Mr William Ginn
Secretary
5km NSW ACT Border Zone Planning Group Inc.

5kzplanninggroup@gmail.com

Dear Mr Ginn,

NSW- ACT Border Development

I refer to your recent correspondence and invitation to the meeting on 24th February 2019 in Sutton.

I can advise that I am able to attend to listen to your concerns however I will not be participating in your debate. I am happy to listen to the issues of landowners within this area. Unfortunately Council's senior planning staff are unable to attend.

With regard to your letter, there seems to be some confusion in relation to the policy positions established by the Yass Valley Settlement Strategy and the South East and Tablelands Regional Plan. There is no intention by Yass Valley Council to delay implementing the Regional Plan for 20 years, and the Settlement Strategy is consistent with the Regional Plan. Other than Parkwood, the Regional Plan does not identify any areas adjoining the NSW-ACT border for urban development, and the Settlement Strategy identifies areas for growth and urban development as forecasted in the Regional Plan.

Council staff met with representatives from NSW Planning & Environment and the ACT Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate in January 2019 in relation to the Department's advice on the Settlement Strategy. From that discussion, it appears that the Department has reservations regarding the proposed mechanism of an RU6 Transition zone rather than the overarching policy position of restricting Canberra's growth across the border (excluding Parkwood) and maintaining a clear separation between Canberra and existing Yass Valley settlements. We are currently awaiting written clarification of this advice.

It is noted that you have a number of questions in relation to Ginninderry/Parkwood. The Parkwood site is unique within Yass Valley, due to its geographic constraints and that it can only be accessed from the ACT. Despite it being the only Yass Valley cross border development identified in both the South East Regional Plan and ACT Planning Strategy 2018, ultimately Council will only support this rezoning if it can be confirmed that development in this location is sustainable and will have no detrimental impact on Yass Valley ratepayers.

The Planning Proposal for that site was lodged in 2014, and has not yet progressed to formal agency or community consultation, due to the complex and significant cross border issues being considered. It should also be noted that ACT were not involved in the project when it was lodged with Yass Valley Council, and that they entered into a Joint Venture with the landowners in 2016.

Council has not entered into any discussions with the ACT Government in relation to moving the border. To do so would require the agreement of both the NSW and ACT governments as well as Yass Valley Council.

Any landowner, including yourself, is able to lodge a request for a Planning Proposal at any time. It would need to demonstrate that it can be serviced and would be considered against all current Regional and Local Planning Strategies.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rowena Abbey', with a long, sweeping underline.

Rowena Abbey
Mayor
Yass Valley Council