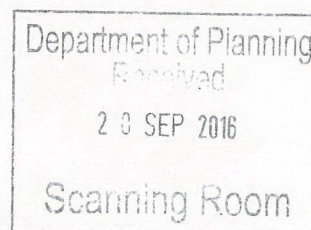




EAP16/6848

Mr Bruce Colman
Department of Planning & Environment
Housing and Land Release
PO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Dear Mr Colman

Proposed Greater Macarthur Priority Growth Area

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Greater Macarthur Priority Growth Area. The Secretary appreciates the importance of the matter and he has asked me to reply on his behalf.

The Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) recently released *Future Directions for Social Housing* which outlines the NSW Government's strategic priorities for more and better social housing.

This is consistent with the actions of *A Plan for Growing Sydney* to increase housing supply and address housing affordability and choice. I note also that housing affordability and choice were identified as top priorities in feedback to the draft *Glenfield to Macarthur Urban Renewal Corridor Strategy*.

On this basis FACS is supportive of the proposals to bring the renewal corridor and land release areas into the Growth Centres SEPP. FACS has a large number of social housing assets in the proposed growth area. Their inclusion will facilitate the comprehensive planning of land to improve housing outcomes through the precinct planning process.

To enable the provision of affordable housing in precincts it is critical that precinct planning aims include promoting housing choice and affordability. The development of land use and infrastructure strategies for the precincts should also include the provision of targeted affordable housing for lower income households in the growth area, as outlined in our submission to the *Greater Macarthur Preliminary Strategy and Action Plan*.

In order to ensure coordinated planning of land we believe there is a strong argument to expand the priority growth area boundary to include the Macquarie Fields Estate. The estate currently contains 1,100 social housing homes that could provide opportunity for additional housing and an improved mix of homes in the future.

Inclusion of the site in the growth area is consistent with the aims of the Growth Centres SEPP as it would provide a pathway to ensure the comprehensive planning

Department of Family and Community Services

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of the site contributes to the renewal of the area and helps increase housing supply and choice in the precinct.

A map of the suggested boundary is included at **Attachment A**.

FACS is keen to further discuss opportunities for including the Macquarie Fields Estate in the growth area boundary and finalisation of land use and infrastructure strategies for the precincts. It would be appreciated if you could contact me on 8753 8520 on this issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darren Troy', enclosed within a circular flourish.

Darren Troy
A/Executive Director – Strategy
Land and Housing Corporation
20 September 2016

Attachment A:
Suggested growth area boundary to include Macquarie Fields Estate

