

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation:

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Content:

NSW PARENTSâ€™ COUNCIL

The NSW Parents Council has represented the parent of students attending independent schools since 1962. Our parents are keenly aware that projected student demand levels through to 2031 are indicating very substantial increases. These very substantial increases will be addressed by the expansion of capacity at existing schools, together with the building of a considerable number of new schools.

Accordingly, we support the general policy thrust of the government's Education and Childcare SEPP. It is appropriate that significant development decisions should be in the hands of the Department of Planning and Environment staff who will have an appreciation of the need to expedite approvals of developments designed to meet the need referred to above.

The NSWPC generally supports the new Education and Childcare SEPP particularly:

- The general objective to increase the scope and scale of complying and exempt development for the purposes of schools and child-care centres

- The classification of all school development over \$20 million as State Significant Development " which would result in DPE as the consent authority. This would ensure that major school development is not impeded by local government processes
- The move to include all the National Quality Framework for Child Care Centres within the planning approval framework. While this is considered a commendable objective, the concurrence process with the relevant regulatory authority be difficult to achieve.
- Independent schools are now considered largely the same as Government schools within the NSW planning system. However it is noted that there are still differences. The NSW PC would have preferred the SEPP to allow independent schools to undertake development under Part 5 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (i.e. Development without consent). This primarily relates to Clause 30 of the Draft SEPP, which specifies a range of minor developments that Government schools are able to undertake " which are not available to independent schools. We believe this clause should be extended to non-Government schools.

Apart from our comments regarding Clause 30, we believe the Draft SEPP will facilitate the orderly and timely development of schools in NSW to meet the state' growing population.

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Submission: Online Submission from company NSW Parents Council (org\_comments)

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