

Bruce Colman
Director Land Release
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Colman,

I write in response to your letter requesting the Department of Education's comment regarding the exhibition of the *Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan for the Wilton Priority Growth Area* and the *draft Precinct Plan for the Wilton South East Precinct*.

The department does not object, in principle, to the information provided in the two plans, however we do wish to raise a number of issues that should be addressed before these plans are approved.

Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan for the Wilton Priority Growth Area

The department notes that the *Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan* states that the Wilton Growth Precinct will yield about 16,500 dwellings over the next 20-30 years.

It is estimated that the Wilton Growth Precinct will require three new public primary schools and a public secondary school. The plan does not mention any potential opportunities for joint or shared use of school assets with other community infrastructure, which should be included in the plan. The plan also needs to address the social benefits that joint and shared use of school and community facilities can provide to the wider community.

The department has concerns about planning for schools in a mining subsidence area and the limitation this may have on designing multi-storey schools. Current planning for 1,000 student primary and 2,000 student secondary schools are based on the provision of three or more storey buildings on a 2.00ha or 4.00ha site, respectively. If the department is limited to building smaller buildings than larger school sites will be required to accommodate projected demand.

We understand that prior to any precinct planning approval a working group that includes the Department of Planning and Environment, Department of Industry, the Mining Subsidence Board, mining companies and other stakeholders reviews all precinct rezoning applications. We request that the working group take into consideration the issues and limitations relating to the provision of educational facilities and site requirements in areas potentially affected by mining subsidence before approving any rezoning application.

It is noted that the plan states a new primary school in Wilton South East will open before Wilton Public School reaches 1,000 students. We request that this statement be changed to

'a new primary school in Wilton South East will open once Wilton Public School has capacity and roads and other infrastructure are in place'.

Wilton South East Draft Precinct Plan

The department notes that the Wilton South East Precinct is anticipated to yield about 3,000 dwellings over the next 20 years and that a primary school site is identified in the precinct plan. This plan also has no mention of any potential joint or shared use of school assets or other social infrastructure, which needs to be included in this plan.

It is also noted that the plan does not identify a timeline for the provision of a new public primary school in the south east precinct like stated in the *Interim Land Use and Infrastructure Implementation Plan for the Wilton Priority Growth Area*. As a point of consistency the department request that a similar statement to the one stated in our comments about the timing for a new primary school in Wilton south east be included in this plan.

If you require any additional information please contact Cameron Judson, Senior Asset Planner on (02) 9561 1246 or email cameron.judson@det.nsw.edu.au.

Yours sincerely



Therese Hoy
Director, Schools Planning
20 September 2017