

Friday, 18 May 2018

NSW Retail Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

To Whom it May Concern,

Re - Planning for the Future of Retail Discussion Paper

Gibb Group is a national development and asset management company specialising in commercial, industrial and retail property. Our owner and key staff have a broad range of skill sets and experiences to provide services across all facets of the property life cycle and the development and asset management industry.

We deliver high-quality industrial, retail and commercial assets for private portfolios and syndicates and are constantly sourcing opportunities within the market place, whether it is for re-development, re-positioning, re-leasing, or purpose built facilities.

Gibb Group is a member of the Large Format Retail Association (LFRA) and we strongly endorse the LFRA's submission to the Discussion Paper on "Planning for the Future of Retail".

Gibb Group considers sites for development across all states in Australia. We have offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Perth and Townsville and we are currently developing a Large Format Retail/Homemaker centre in Central Queensland. We would love to develop in NSW but our personal experiences in working in the State has found limited opportunities for businesses, such as ours, to consider developing and investing our capital. We continue to develop in areas who are seeking the benefits that Large Format Retailers provide, including the many jobs created directly and indirectly in their respective regions.

We believe that the adoption of the proposed definition of 'Specialised Retail Premises' will assist Large Format retailers in terms of providing clarity, consistency and certainty in respect of their goods that can be sold and services provided, but it will not itself increase the supply of land on which Large Format Retailing can occur.

This is an important consideration that the NSW State should review and will allow the flexibility for developers and retailers to choose to invest in suitable locations as the population and their demand for choice continues to grow in the future.

We strongly support the proposition that Business zones be simplified and collapsed so that Large Format Retailing can occur in a wider range of zones and thus increasing the supply of land to allow investment and certainty for this retail sector.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Gibb Group Property Services Pty Ltd

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Gibb', with a stylized, cursive script.

Matthew Gibb

Director