

Our ref: WSU Indigenous Centre of Excellence (SSD-64916225)

Mr Thomas Klobucar  
Project Director  
Western Sydney University  
171 Victoria Road  
Parramatta New South Wales 2150

13 October 2025

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**Subject:** Response to Submissions

Dear Mr Klobucar

The exhibition of the Response to Submissions and Amendment Report for the amended WSU Indigenous Centre of Excellence (SSD-64916225) ended on 07 October 2025.

We have placed all submissions on the NSW Planning Portal at <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/wsu-indigenous-centre-excellence>.

We now require a written response to issues raised in the submissions, as required under section 59(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021.

The written response must be in the form of a submissions report that has been prepared having regard to the *State Significant Development Guidelines including Appendix C - Preparing a Submissions Report*. We also require a response to the issues raised by agencies in their advice. This response should be incorporated into the submissions report.

The Department is awaiting advice from the Crown Lands and the Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation branch of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water and will forward any pending advice as separate correspondence upon receipt. Please ensure that the Submissions Report addresses the issues raised in any forthcoming additional agency advice.

In addition, the Department the Department has undertaken a preliminary assessment of the Response to Submissions and Amendment Report and requires the matters at **Attachment 1** to be addressed in full.

Please lodge your submissions report by 10 November 2025 via the NSW Planning Portal <https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/>.

Note that the time between the date of this letter and the date the Planning Secretary receives your response is not included in the 'assessment period' under section 94(1) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021.

## Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure



If you have any questions, please contact Ingrid Zhu, on 02 9585 6995 or via email at [ingrid.zhu@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ingrid.zhu@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Madeline Thomas".

Madeline Thomas  
**Team Leader**  
**Social Infrastructure Assessments**

as delegate for the Planning Secretary

## ATTACHMENT 1 KEY ISSUES / FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED

### 1. Flooding

- The Department raises concerns regarding the high flood hazard present near and within the site, including the new carparks. The significant flood affectation warrants a comprehensive flood assessment and robust emergency response measures.
- The Department requests a revised Flood Emergency Response Plan in close consultation with the City of Parramatta Council (Council), the NSW State Emergency Service and the Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation branch of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water (CPHR of NSW DCCEEW) for identifying flood risks accurately, creating clear response procedures and safeguarding all site occupants, noting that NSW SES have raised concerns with the current arrangements proposed.
- Additionally, the flood-related advice forthcoming from the CPHR of NSW DCCEEW must be addressed in full.

### 2. Landowner's consent

- Under section 23 of the EP&A Reg 2021, written consent from the landowner or evidence of notification to the landowner prior to lodgement is required. The Department notes that the Crown Lands consent obtained prior to lodgement pertains only to Lot 100, not Lot 101.
- Provide either written consent for Lot 101 DP 816829 from the Minister for Lands and Property or evidence that Crown Lands was notified of the development over Lot 101 before lodgement, satisfying section 23 of the EP&A Reg 2021.

### 3. Built form

- The Design Integrity Panel (DIP) should reconvene and provide advice on whether the project's design integrity has been impacted by the amendments, including:
  - two new at-grade carparks, particularly regarding the landscaping and heritage context.
  - a rooftop net enclosure with specific dimensions to be provided to the DIP.
  - the proposed slab-on-ground design, which departs from the DIP endorsed landscape-led flood strategy.
- Consideration should be given to reducing the size of the proposed projecting signage zone. The Department requests that the DIP review and evaluate the urban design recommendations made by Council.

### 4. Heritage

- Heritage NSW has raised concerns about the significant visual impact on the landscape character within the curtilage of the State Heritage Register (SHR) item Rydalmere Hospital

Precinct (former) (SHR no. 00749) and proposed the removal of the temporary carparks after two years.

- Respond to Heritage's advice in full and confirm if the proposed two-year period is achievable for the long-term Parramatta South Place Strategy to take place and to consolidate parking for the entire campus.

## 5. Mitigation Measures Table

- Provide a revised Mitigation Measures Table that consolidates all commitments should the project be approved. The table must include any additional mitigation measures from the updated technical documents.