



DOC20/932045

Senders ref: SSD 10472 (The Hills)

Candice Pon
Key Sites Assessments
Planning and Assessment Group
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
4 Parramatta Square
12 Darcy Street
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Dear Ms Pon,

Subject: Notice of Exhibition – Expansion of the Museums Discovery Centre, 2 Green Road, Castle Hill (SSD10472)

Thank you for your e-mail dated 5 November 2020, inviting Environment, Energy and Science Group (EES) in the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) to comment on the Notice of Exhibition for the Expansion of the Museum Discovery Centre, 2 Green Road, Castle Hill.

EES has reviewed the relevant documentation and make the following comments.

Biodiversity

EES notes that the final issued SEARs required the preparation of a Tree Replacement Strategy and details of *'any arrangements with Council for tree planting proposed off site'*. It is noted that section 4.4 of the Tree Replacement Strategy states that negotiations with Council to identify suitable sites for replacement planting are *'ongoing'*. EES recommends that The Tree Replacement Strategy be finalised prior to consent being issued or alternatively before construction commences.

EES supports the inclusion of the listed mitigation measures in a Flora and Fauna Management Plan, as stated in Section 9 of the Biodiversity Assessment Development Report (BDAR). EES recommends that a Flora and Fauna Management Plan be included as a condition of any development consent that may be issued.

Section 11 of the BDAR mentions that the credit calculator has given inconsistent credit requirement results i.e. in June 2020 the BAM-C indicated no credits were required, however, in September 2020 it indicated one credit was required for each species. EES is aware that an amendment was made to the BAM-C in September, where small credit requirements of <1 are to be rounded up to one, in accordance with section 11.2.4.5 of the BAM.

Flooding

EES is not providing comments in relation to flooding.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Bronwyn Smith Senior Conservation Planning Officer on 9873 8604 or Bronwyn.smith@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

04/12/20

SUSAN HARRISON
Senior Team Leader Planning
Greater Sydney
Biodiversity and Conservation Division