



Ms Helen Mulcahy  
Statutory Planner  
NSW Department of Education  
Suite 9, 259 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

17/02/2022

Dear Ms Mulcahy,

**Upgrades to John Palmer Public School (SSD-23330227)  
Request for additional information**

I refer to the state significant development application for the Upgrades to John Palmer Public School (SSD-23330227).

After careful consideration, the Department of Planning and Environment is requesting that you provide additional information to address issues identified in the Response to Submissions (RtS) regarding acoustic amenity and natural ventilation as detailed below.

The Ponds Shopping Centre loading area adjoins the site to the north and is a potential noise intrusion source on indoor spaces. The Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment (NVIA), dated 13 October 2021, specifies the internal noise criteria for the new buildings through a closed window. The letter titled 'Acoustic response to the SSDA submissions', submitted with RtS, does not specify whether the internal noise level criteria can be achieved with open windows.

The Noise Policy for Industry 2017 (NSW EPA) requires that internal amenity noise levels be considered with windows opened sufficiently to provide adequate ventilation, except where alternative means of ventilation complying with the Building Code of Australia are provided. While the 'Acoustic response to the SSDA submissions' mentions ventilation louvres would be provided to reduce the level of traffic noise, no further detail has been provided to demonstrate whether these louvres would reduce the noise enough in order to meet the interior noise criteria with open windows.

In addition, it is noted that the ESD report, dated 13 October 2021, states that natural cross ventilation in classrooms can be achieved with operable windows. Should the internal amenity noise levels not be able to be achieved with open windows alternative means of ventilation are required. This may impact the conclusions and recommendations of the ESD report.

You are requested to submit additional information which addresses the issues raised above and demonstrates how acceptable acoustic amenity and natural cross flow ventilation would be achieved for occupants of the new buildings at all times. At a minimum this should include:

- Revised NVIA which provides further information on whether the ventilation louvres would reduce the vehicle and servicing noise associated with The Ponds Shopping Centre loading area enough to achieve compliance with specified noise criteria.
- If the ventilation louvres would not reduce the traffic noise enough to meet the internal noise criteria, details of alternative means of ventilation are required to be provided.

- Statement addressing the relevant acoustic amenity and natural ventilation sections of the Noise Policy for Industry 2017 (NSW EPA).
- Revised ESD report which aligns with the findings and recommendations of the revised NVIA.

Please provide the information, or notify us that the information will not be provided, by 28 February 2022. If you cannot meet this deadline, please provide and commit to an alternative timeframe for providing this information.

If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Chu, at [Jenny.Chu@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Jenny.Chu@planning.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Harragon".

Karen Harragon  
Director, Social And Infrastructure Assessments  
Social & Infrastructure Assessments