

2 August 2021

Our ref: 21CAN 17853

Emma Viljoen  
Project Director  
Savills Australia

Dear Emma,

**New Primary School in Murrumbateman - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment – Clarification of consultation undertaken**

The consultation requirements undertaken as part of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) for the proposed New Primary School in Murrumbateman have been followed as specified in the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents' guideline 2010* (DECCW 2010). Consultation is multi-faceted and does not rely solely on the newspaper advertisement; it is but one part in the process, as detailed in section 5 of the ACHA (ELA, 2021).

A list of local Aboriginal people/groups were ascertained by requesting information from the following:

- Heritage NSW
- Yass Council
- NTS Corp
- Native Title Tribunal
- South East Local Land Services
- Onerwal LALC
- Office of the Registrar.

All Aboriginal parties identified in this stage were then directly invited to register interest in the project by mail and email. The list of Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) was then determined from the responses and engaged accordingly.

The advertisement was posted in the Regional Independent. We have updated the ACHA report and consultation log to remove reference to 'Bungendore' in the name as this is incorrect. We have been informed that the Regional Independent is not distributed in Yass; it appears there was a miscommunication between our consultant and an employee at the Regional Independent at the time of placing the advertisement, regarding the readership of the Regional Independent and based on that advice the advertisement was placed. The newspaper is not printed and available only as an online version.

We have never had a response from a newspaper advertisement for any ACHA project that we have managed anywhere in NSW. In addition, a number of newspapers were not operating during the COVID outbreak last year. We are very confident that we have consulted with all relevant Aboriginal stakeholders for this project and in accordance with the guideline. We therefore consider that consultation requirements have been met and that ultimately Heritage NSW have advised that they are satisfied that the ACHA has considered and addressed cultural heritage matters.

The ACHA report has been updated and clearly describes the consultation process and responses from RAPs.

Regards,



Karyn McLeod  
Principal Heritage Consultant