

5th December 2019

Ms. Stephanie Cooke MLA, Member for Cootamundra,
Mr David Rowland, Acting General Manager, Hilltops Council

By email

Dear Ms. Cooke and Mr Rowland,

Community Library/Joint Use Facility

I am writing on behalf of the Young Community and Residents Association, YCARA, to ask you jointly to request that School Infrastructure NSW extend the period of public exhibition of material associated with the above project at least until late January so that our members, and indeed other members of the public can fully examine the plans and documentation held at the Young Council Chambers.

Although we have repeatedly requested them, hard copy detailed plans and reports have only recently been made available in Young (*after* the 11th November, the advertised start of the exhibition period). Close reading over time is needed to deal with the volume of material. Slow internet connection and the difficulty of consulting miniscule text on screen means we need to handle the documents, which have to be read at the Council Chambers during business hours.

While officials, bureaucrats and consultants can use their working time to examine such plans, members of the public have to give of their own time after hours. We need time to understand the effect the project will have on our park, on community access to our library, and on our town.

Some of us are in full-time employment, all of us already have commitments as volunteers, and this is a time when end-of-year functions take place. Young is a regional town, the Cherry Festival and the fruit season is the busiest time of the year we have family and other visitors arriving for holidays, some of us travel.

If the period of exhibition is extended then people will be able fully to understand the proposals, the charge of secrecy which has bedevilled the project can be put aside, and suggestions or objections can be better purposed.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joe Kinsela". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Kinsela

B.A. Hons, Master of Heritage Conservation, University of Sydney.
President, YCARA