

22 August 2018

Mr James Groundwater  
Senior Planning Officer  
Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Groundwater

**UON HONEYSUCKLE CITY CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT (SSD 18\_9262)**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the UON Honeysuckle City Campus Development (SSD 18\_9262).

The development is located within the Honeysuckle Precinct in Newcastle. It comprises of seven new buildings for academic and ancillary uses, including student accommodation.

The EIS has been reviewed by Hunter New England Population Health with particular attention paid to management of air quality, noise, water and other issues that may impact on public health. The following comments are made for your consideration:

- The Construction Noise and Vibration Strategy identifies actions to minimise any potential adverse health effects caused by noise pollution issues on the surrounding community. A mechanism should also be included to allow the community to seek remedial action from the proponent in a timely fashion, should noise generation become problematic.
- The site has a long history of mixed uses which may have led to soil contamination. Any soil contamination should be addressed before the residential and commercial development occurs. A remediation plan for the site should require that all land being used for residential and commercial purposes will have all contaminated soil removed and the final remediation be validated as safe by a Site Auditor.
- As this development is within 400m from an international first port of entry under the International Health Regulations, there is potential for exotic mosquitoes imported through shipping vessels and containers to establish and spread exotic diseases including dengue. Thus a Mosquito Management Plan including a risk assessment should be included to ensure any potential mosquito breeding sites are identified e.g. natural or constructed wetlands, stormwater drains and low lying areas. The mosquito management plan will also assist to prevent both nuisance biting mosquitoes and disease transmitting mosquitoes affecting workers, employees, students, visitors and the local population. The proponent should consult the Department of Medical

Hunter New England Local Health District  
ABN 63 598 010 203

Hunter New England Population Health  
Locked Bag 10  
Wallsend NSW 2287  
Phone (02) 4924 6477 Fax (02) 4924 6490  
Email HNELHD-PHENquiries@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au  
www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/hneph

Entomology at the University of Sydney when drafting these mosquito management plans to address both native and exotic mosquito risks.

- The Stormwater Management Strategy must also address mosquito breeding issues such as natural depressions and drainage channels around the site. This is to reduce both nuisance biting and disease transmitting mosquitoes to the local population.
- Consideration should be given to any proposed air conditioning system for the development. An air conditioning and ventilation system, other than a cooling tower with water circulation is recommended. If a cooling tower system is installed, the system will need to meet the requirements of Newcastle City Council, the *Public Health Act 2010*, associated Regulations, the NSW Code of Practice for the Control of Legionnaires Disease 2004 and relevant Australian Standards. The system must be registered with Newcastle City Council.
- The Stormwater Management Strategy proposes a roof water re-use system incorporating below ground re-use tanks and a number of above ground bio-retention basins/gardens. The overflow from this system will divert to the site stormwater drainage, into Honeysuckle Drive, Worth Place or Wright Lane street drainage and then into Newcastle Harbour. The proposed re-use system will need to comply with the *Australian Guidelines for Water Recycling: Managing Health and Environmental Risks (phase 1)* 2006. There should be particular focus on mosquito management in this development as well.

If you require any additional information in relation to this matter, please contact Cindy Gliddon, Environmental Health Officer on 4924 6468 or via email at [cindy.gliddon@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cindy.gliddon@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely 1



Dr David Durrheim  
Director Health Protection