



Office of  
Environment  
& Heritage

DOC18/329054  
SSD 8812

Mrs Karen Harragon  
Director – Social and Other Infrastructure Assessments  
NSW Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Navdeep Singh Shergill

**Notice of Exhibition of Cranbrook School Redevelopment - SSD 8812**

Dear Mr Singh Shergill,

I refer to your letter dated 21 May 2018, requesting input from the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) on the exhibition of the Cranbrook School Redevelopment SSD.

Please find attached OEH comments regarding Aboriginal cultural heritage in Attachment 1. Please note comments on biodiversity matters will be forthcoming after the OEH has completed its assessment on this matter.

Please note that a separate response may be provided on heritage matters by the Heritage Division of OEH as delegate of the Heritage Council of NSW. Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Svetlana Kotevska, Senior Conservation Planning Officer on 8837 6040 or at [Svetlana.kotevska@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Svetlana.kotevska@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

*S. Harrison 31/05/18*

**SUSAN HARRISON**  
**Senior Team Leader Planning**  
**Greater Sydney**  
**Regional Operations**

## **Attachment 1 – Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) comments Cranbrook School Redevelopment**

### ***Aboriginal Cultural Heritage***

OEH has reviewed the architectural plans and EIS. It is noted that the plans show significant excavation below Cranbrook Schools existing rugby oval. This is required in order to facilitate the proposed aquatic and leisure centre comprising a 50m pool and learn to swim pool plus gym and basketball court over two levels as shown on the section plan extracted below. These two levels will be more than 8m below the ground level of the oval.

It is noted that in the proponents original SEARs request it stated that the area of the Oval was constructed of fill in the 1920s and sits approximately 2 to 3m above the local streets intersection. OEH raised no comments (email October, 2017) on the original request for SEARs, however it was unclear at this time how significant the excavation would be.

OEH considers that the scope of the excavation works is significant, extending far beyond the oval's original fill area and given there are two known Aboriginal sites within 1km of the site (EIS reference section 6.11.2), OEH recommends that an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage assessment report should be undertaken to support this development.

OEH also considers that there is likely to be significant cultural heritage values and Aboriginal peoples associations with this site given its proximity to Sydney Harbour which need to be explored in consultation with the Aboriginal community.

In this regard, OEH recommends the EIS identify and describe the Aboriginal cultural heritage values that exist across the whole area that will be affected by the development. This may include the need for surface survey and test excavation. The identification of cultural heritage values must be conducted in accordance with the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigations of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (OEH 2010), and guided by the *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in NSW* (DECCW, 2011) and consultation with OEH regional branch officers. OEH also recommends consultation is undertaken in accordance with *Aboriginal cultural heritage consultation requirements for proponents 2010* (DECCW) and documented in the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report.

(END OF SUBMISSION)