

Consultation Summary Report

Newcastle Courthouse Redevelopment 9 Church Street, Newcastle

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Introduction

dwp have prepared the following report to summarise the various consultation that has occurred for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Development Application, with numerous local and state authorities and stakeholders, for the Nihon University Newcastle Campus project at 9 Church Street Newcastle.

The report also summarises the Statements of Committment outlined in all of the various specialist reports accompanying the EIS.

Consultation Summary

1. Government Authorities

The following government Authorities have been formally consulted with during the concept and schematic design phases.

1.1 City of Newcastle

Various meetings have been held with Newcastle City Council (NCC) since the project inception in 2017. Representatives of Nihon University and Azusa Sekkei were in attendance at these meetings, to discuss the project and gain feedback on appropriate items for consideration for redevelopment of the site.

A Pre DA meeting was held on 19th September 2018. Items of discussion included height restriction, carparking, demolition and alterations to the former courthouse, contamination, service vehicles and waste management. Generally council was supportive of the development, with consideration to be given to the key issues raised.

1.2 Urban Design Consultative Group (UDCG)

A meeting was held with NCC's UDCG on 17th October 2018. Nihon University, Azusa Sekkei and dwp representatives were all in attendance. Generally the UDCG was supportive of the design concept and massing, but raised some items for further consideration in the design such as landscaping, amenity and built form aesthetics. The architect has taken on board these comments and made alterations to the façade composition, landscape design and accessible roof top terraces.

1.3 Heritage Division of OEH and Heritage Council

A meeting was held with the Heritage Division on OEH on 18th October 2018. Nihon University, Azusa Sekkei and dwp representatives were all in attendance. The Heritage division was generally supportive of the development and made general comments around items to be addressed within the Heritage Impact Statement, particularly around the justification for the demolition of the Supreme Court building.

At time of writing, a presentation has been scheduled with the Heritage Council for 6th March 2019. The design team are looking forward to this presentation.

1.4 Environment Divison of OEH

Correspondence has been held with Brendan Mee of the Environment Division of OEH in relation to the preparation and lodgement of the Biodiversity Assessment Report waiver request. On 11th February 2019, the waiver was formally lodged by EMM Consulting, and has subsquently been issued by NSW Department of Planning to OEH. At time of writing this report, the waiver is still pending.



1.5 Roads and Maritime Services (RMS)

The traffic engineer – Better Transport Futures, has consulted with Marc Desmond from RMS in early February 2019 to discuss the project and the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements. Communication between both parties discussed traffic survey requirements, the Construction Traffic Management Plan and Green Travel Plan. Please refer in detail to the Traffic and Parking Assessment Report.

1.6 Subsidence Advisory NSW (SA NSW)

Initial discussions have been held with Kieran Black from SA NSW. An initial meeting was held on 20th September 2018, with SA NSW and in attendance at this meeting were representatives from Azusa Sekkei, dwp and the project Structural Engineer – Cardno. Preliminary advice received from SA NSW is covered within the Geotechnical report.

A building application has been lodged with SA NSW on 20/02/2019 - application number TBA19-04392 CRM:0007465. The design team area awaiting formal response to this application, where we are expecting formal design parameters.

2. Neighbouring Properties

Consultation regarding the development was undertaken with all adjoining land owners, including the properties immediately across from the site on Church Street. Letters were issued in mid January 2019, seeking their initial consideration of the proposal and details of matters that they would like specifically addressed in the EIS. A formal response was received from the resident of 40 Church Street and has been considered. A response letter was sent to the respondent and has been addressed in the EIS.

In addition, the following neighbouring properties have been formally consulted with during the concept and schematic design phases:

2.1 Newcastle Police Station – 1 Watt Street Newcastle

A meeting was held with Sgt Darren Holmes of Newcastle Police Station on 12th November 2018. The purpose of this meeting was to consult with the police on any areas of concern they may have about the development. Sgt Holmes indicated he was generally supportive of the development. Items that were raised for further consideration during the design process included the existing underground prisoner tunnel, existing Electrical Substation cables, construction traffic management, police vehicle parking during construction, site contamination and building plant considerations. These items are being explored and managed during the documentation phase.

A subsequent letter was issued to Newcastle Police in January 2019, offering further feedback. No submission was received.

2.2 Hunter New England Health – James Fletcher Campus – 72 Watt Street Newcastle

A meeting was held with Scott Pascoe from Hunter New England Health (HNE) in mid October 2018, to discuss the project. One item of specific discussion included structural rectification works to the heritage retaining wall between the two properties. Ongoing discussions are occurring on this matter, to ensure all parties are in agreement on the resolution.

A subsequent letter was issued to HNE in January 2019, offering further feedback. No submission was received

3. Infrastructure Connections

Preliminary advice relating to infrastructure connections and requirements is being provided by the services engineers, Marline. This advice is informing the design and spatial allocation requirements for infrastructure.



All necessary applications for connections and assessment will be made with each provider at the appropriate time.

3.1 Electricity Supply – Ausgrid

Initial advice from Marline has indicated that a 600 KVA Pad mount kiosk will be required to provide sufficient power to the development. The pad mount kiosk has been located at the north-west corner of the site, with main switchboard located in the adjacent carpark of the Education Building.

An application for power will be made directly with Ausgrid at the appropriate time during the construction documentation phase. It is understood that a Level 3 designer will work with Ausgrid to develop a design to provide adequate power to the site.

3.2 Water & Sewer – Hunter Water

A statement of Available Pressure was provided by Hunter Water on 21/09/2018, indicating that there should be sufficient pressure in the system to accommodate the likely water demands of the development. Further assessment will occur during the documentation phase of the project.

A Building Plan Assessment and Development Assessment (Section 50 Compliance Certificate) has been lodged with Hunter Water on date 19/02/2019, receipt 782230098965. We are awaiting Hunter Water's assessment and letter or requirements to inform the hydraulic design for Water and Sewer requirements.

3.3 Internet Connection – NBN Co

Initial investigations indicate that Fibre to the Node broadband network is available to the property. At the appropriate time, connection application will be made with an internet provider. No authority consultation is required.

4. Aboriginal Consultation

Consultation with Aboriginal people is currently being undertaken, in accordance with Aboriginal cultural heitage consulation requirements for proponents 2010 (DECCW). The process is recorded in the Due Diligence Aboriginal Archaeological Assessment. The report will be finalised once the consultation process is completed.

Conclusion

This report summarises the formal and informal consultation that has occurred to date to assist with the preparation of the EIS and Development Application. If there are any queries in relation to the content of this report, please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely

Katherine Daunt Design Director