



\$97-MILLION REDEVELOPMENT OF LORETO SCHOOL RECEIVES TICK OF APPROVAL

Wednesday 3 October 2018

An independent girls' school on Sydney's Lower North Shore will receive a multi-million-dollar makeover after receiving the tick of approval from the Independent Planning Commission.

Loreto Kirribilli School sought concept approval for a \$97-million, three-stage redevelopment of its Carabella Street site, and to increase overall student numbers to 1130 (+30).

Stage 1 works, which form part of this development application, include the partial demolition of an existing building, construction of a new seven-storey learning hub, an extension to the gymnasium and refurbishment of an existing chapel. Separate approvals will be required for Stages 2 and 3.

The Department of Planning and Environment completed its assessment of the proposal in August this year and referred it to the Commission for determination.

Chair of the Commission, Professor Mary O'Kane, appointed two Commission Members, Ms Ilona Millar and Mr Soo Tee Cheong, to scrutinise the application and make a final decision.

The Commission met with the applicant, representatives of the Department, as well as North Sydney Council, which had expressed concerns about adverse impacts of the proposal on local traffic and parking.

After examining all the evidence and carefully considering the views of Council and the community, the Commission has determined to approve with conditions the redevelopment of Loreto Kirribilli School.

In its Statement of Reasons for Decision, the Commission concluded:

- the development's construction traffic impacts, parking impacts and operational traffic impacts are acceptable
- the Commission is satisfied that the applicant's justification to vary the development standard (relating to maximum building heights) meets Clause 4.6 of LEP 2013
- the built form is reasonable for the site
- the development would not result in the loss of any threatened or vulnerable species, populations, communities or significant habitats, and would provide for new habitat opportunities
- the development meets the objects of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act
- the development is in the public interest

The conditions of consent imposed by the Commission are designed to prevent, minimise and/or offset adverse environmental impacts; set standards and performance measures for acceptable environmental performance; require regular monitoring and reporting; and provide for the ongoing environmental management of the development.

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The Commission's full Statement of Reasons for Decisions is available here:
<http://ipcn.nsw.gov.au/projects/2018/08/loreto-kirribilli-school-ssd-7919>

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