

16 January 2019

Independent Planning Commission
Level 3
201 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Att: Professor Helen Lochhead, Panel Chair

Dear Madam,

**SUBJECT: IPC REF. A092/18
HERITAGE CURTILAGE ADJUSTMENT AT 'VARROVILLE',
ST ANDREWS ROAD, VARROVILLE**

I refer to the recent Independent Planning Commission Panel hearing in relation to an application made to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) to amend the State Heritage listing at 'Varroville', which is located within the Campbelltown local government area.

Campbelltown Council's officers had the opportunity to discuss the matter with the IPC's planner, Mr Jorge Van Den Brande, and I would like to take the opportunity to provide the Panel with further information regarding Campbelltown City Council's position on the matter.

The proposed amendment to the curtilage of 'Varroville' includes Lot 4 DP 239557 ('the land'), which is under the Crown's ownership. You may be aware however, the same land is under the care, control and management of Campbelltown City Council.

A submission made on the curtilage amendment by the Office of Strategic Lands is mentioned in the OEH assessment report for the Panel's consideration. In that assessment report, the OEH acknowledged that the Office of Strategic Lands (OSL) objected to the amendment. It is the Council's understanding that the same OEH report suggests that Campbelltown City Council formally objected to the amendment to the subject curtilage. The Council does not object and did not object to the curtilage amendment, and as such, any statement or suggestion to the contrary is incorrect.

Staff of Campbelltown City Council became aware of discussions between OEH and OSL staff regarding the OSL's submission responding to the matter of the proposed curtilage. The OSL's submission objects to the curtilage adjustment.

It has become apparent however that during those conversations, the OEH offered a number of alternatives to the OSL, including excising of the land and other possible planning allowances on the land to protect future potential for road access/recreational space. Campbelltown Council understands that despite other opportunities being presented, the OSL still wished to have its land to be excluded from the curtilage.

Notwithstanding Campbelltown City Council's (CCC) mention within the report of the OEH, CCC was never afforded the opportunity to make comment or be part of discussions relating to any of these alternatives, neither was CCC afforded any opportunity to form an opinion on the options offered by the OEH in seeking to resolve the matter.

As such, and although CCC did raise points of concern directly with the OSL when it was made aware of the extent of the curtilage application, CCC made no formal submission to the Heritage Council. The matter was to be considered and responded to by the OSL directly as it is the rightful owner of the subject land.

In its correspondence to the OSL, Council raised its concern that the extended curtilage may in some way adversely impact on the future strategic value of the subject land.

Simply put and for clarity, Campbelltown City Council did not and does not object to an expansion of the curtilage surrounding Varroville Homestead, but considers it appropriate that suitable mechanisms be put in place to ensure that regardless of the extent of the curtilage, the future strategic value of the subject Lot 4 DP 239557, in terms of road and recreational opportunities not be fettered and/or reduced.

It is also the wish of Campbelltown City Council that any reported reference or suggestion that CCC objects to the amendment to the curtilage be removed and that the IPC formally acknowledge and minute the fact that CCC did not object to the proposed amended curtilage subject of this correspondence.

I trust this letter assists the Panel in its understanding of Campbelltown Council's position on the matter.

Yours sincerely



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ACTING GENERAL MANAGER