



Ms Gail Connolly General Manager Georges River Council PO BOX 205 Hurstville BC NSW 1481

Attn: Catherine McMahon

Dear Ms Connolly

Re: Submission of the Georges River draft Local Housing Strategy for approval by the Department

I am writing to you in response to Council's resolution dated 24 February 2020 and the submission of Council's draft Local Housing Strategy (LHS) on 7 April 2020 for approval. I understand Council is seeking the Department's endorsement by the 31 May 2020 in response to the resolution of Council and to respond to Conditions 1(r) and 2 of the Gateway Determination for the Georges River Local Environmental Plan (LEP).

I would like to thank Council for the significant body of work undertaken to prepare the draft Georges River LHS and have it submitted for endorsement. The Department is currently assessing the LHS, however completing the necessary assessment by the end of the public exhibition period on 31 May 2020 will not be possible.

The Department suggests that following completion of the public exhibition period, Council update the LHS where considered necessary to respond to any submissions received. If updated the LHS can be re-submitted to the Department.

Please note that Conditions 1(r) and 2 of the Gateway Determination do not require the LHS to be approved to satisfy the Gateway conditions. Rather, that the final LEP should be updated where required having regard to any endorsed Local Housing Strategy and Local Strategic Planning Statement, should the endorsement of either document occur prior to finalisation.

When the Georges River LEP proceeds to finalisation, the Department can consider this in conjunction with the latest version of the LHS. If the LHS has not been endorsed at the time the plan is finalised this does not prevent the making of the plan. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Alexander Galea, Senior Planner, Eastern and South District on 8289 6793 or at <u>alexander.galea@planning.nsw.gov.au</u>

Yours sincerely

Amanda Harvey 26 May 2020 Executive Director Local Strategies and Plan Making