



Greg Robinson, Chief University Infrastructure Officer
The University of Sydney

31 March 2021

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment (*submitted via online portal*)

To Whom it May Concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to the draft Westmead Place Strategy. We are delighted to see the NSW Government’s ongoing commitment to supporting the potential of Westmead as a future world-leading health and innovation district.

The University of Sydney (the University) requests that continued effort be placed on incorporating the extensive work undertaken by the Department of Premier & Cabinet (DPC), the Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment (DPIE) and the University in relation to the development of a University campus at Westmead.

The University has concerns that the draft Westmead Place Strategy contains some inconsistencies with the Parramatta North Structure Plan, which was developed and agreed between the University and DPC in 2020 as an addendum to the Cumberland Precinct Framework Deed. Specific detail of these inconsistencies is outlined in table 1.

Westmead Place Strategy – University Feedback	
P15	University Campus – Map The University campus does not reflect what was agreed in the 2020 Parramatta North Structure Plan document. We would like feedback from DPIE on the reasoning behind this departure from the Structure Plan.
P22	Active Transport – Connections Beyond Westmead Connections for Active transport need to look beyond Westmead. It will be difficult to cycle into Westmead if the cycle ways do not extend into areas people are commuting from. The cycleways need to have routes that provide options for people to travel from home to the precinct
P26	Direction 4 – “The Education and Research Sector” We would like the following addition in bold be included within ‘Direction 4’: <i>“Foster a strong collaborative relationship and pride between government, local community, the education and research sector, industry and investors to collectively deliver the Westmead vision.”</i>
P36	Higher Education Zoning Across Cumberland East and West As agreed in the Parramatta North Structure Plan, higher education zoning should span across both Cumberland East and Cumberland West. Page 36 in the Westmead Place Strategy shows education zoning solely on Cumberland West.



P65	University Campus – Misalignment with Structure Plan The map on page 65 does not reflect what was agreed in the 2020 Parramatta North Structure Plan document. We would like feedback from DPIE on the reasoning behind this departure from the Structure Plan.
P76	Future Rezoning for Higher Education Purposes There is no mention under the “Future Rezoning” section to allow for Higher Education purposes. We would like this to be included to reflect what was agreed as part of the 2020 Parramatta North Structure Plan document and to reflect the conversations held between the University and DPC in the development of the Cumberland Precinct Framework Deed, executed November 2020.
	“Living River” and Sustainable City The “Living River” theme needs to be woven through the development themes, rather than being a standalone initiative. The “Living River” needs to be considered in every development, to ensure water run off on such developments is limited and cleaned before storm water enters the river. The document has a vision for a more sustainable city. The sustainability actions need to be woven through all the other parts of the strategy. For example, any development strategies need to look at the storm water solutions, and opportunities for open places and cycle ways. Sustainability is not stand alone, it affects the decisions and the planning of all the development in the precinct.

Table 1: University feedback on the draft Westmead Place Strategy

Your consideration of the above feedback is appreciated.

Sincerely

Greg Robinson

Chief University Infrastructure Officer
The University of Sydney