

Questions from Mr Vincent De Luca

Subject: Request for more information in Development Applications to assist the community

Meeting Date: 24 May 2005

Question:

Could Council please advise whether it is possible to include in letters of notification to the community about Development Applications:

- a) Where copies of the Warringah LEP are available e.g. www.warringah.nsw.gov.au or Council Libraries?
- b) Which Locality Statement and other relevant provisions of the LEP apply to the respective proposed development?
- c) What legislation the Council will consider the application under e.g. the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and where a copy of such legislation can be obtained for the community to view e.g. www.legislation.nsw.gov.au or Council Libraries?

Response: The Director Planning and Assessment responded on behalf of the Administrator, advising questions 1(a) and 1(c) can be implemented easily and quickly. Question 1(b) would, however, result in considerable delays in getting applications notified. Notifications now occur within 3-5 days of the receipt of the DA. It used to take up to 7 weeks. The improvements are due to automation of the process and the forwarding of standard letters. This being the case, it would not be possible to place the 'locality' on letters due to their 'uniqueness'. To do so would result in changing the process back to manual with the consequent delays. However, Council is about to release a Frequently Asked Questions Booklet, which explains how to find out a relevant locality. In addition, accessing Council's website will also provide that information. Therefore, a reference in the notification letters to finding the relevant 'locality' on the website and using the FAQ booklet can be provided.