



30 June 2021

Director Employment Zones
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124

Submitted via Planning Portal

To Whom It May Concern,

EMPLOYMENT ZONE REFORMS

Western Sydney University welcomes the opportunity to respond to the proposed employment zone reforms. As the largest and most established education provider in Western Sydney, the University is supportive of changes that will simplify land-use planning in New South Wales.

Western Sydney University is a multi-campus institution with a broad geographical reach throughout the Western Sydney region. Eight of its campuses are partially or entirely zoned for Business (B) related uses. This includes commercial (B3), mixed-use (B4), business development (B5) and business park (B7) zones in Penrith, Liverpool, Bankstown, Parramatta, Westmead, and Sydney Olympic Park. The University has future or active planning proposals for a number of these sites that seek amendments to zoning and development standards.

The University is progressing its transformational Western Growth development program to deliver high-quality learning environments, co-located with industry and community in strategic centres of Western Sydney. These sites maximise CBD locations and proximity to public transport to achieve improved social, economic and environmental outcomes that support liveability, productivity, and sustainability.

As the region continues to expand at an exponential rate, flexible land uses and improved zoning provisions are required to support the evolving functions of educational institutions. Catalytic development of the region necessitates a nuanced approach to land-use planning that can provide opportunities for tertiary education and skilled jobs close to home and amenity. Western Sydney University is already delivering on this vision, opening the state-of-the-art Peter Shergold Building at Parramatta Square in May 2017, followed by the Ngara Ngura Building in the Liverpool CBD during 2018. Projects also underway or nearing completion include the Bankstown City Campus and the Innovation Hub for Engineering and Built Environment at Hassell Street, Parramatta due to open in July 2021.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with Department representatives and discuss the Western Growth program. This can include an overview of future and active proposals within the region that may benefit from the improved zoning framework envisaged by the reforms.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact [REDACTED]
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Yours sincerely,

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Western Sydney University