Jobs and Homes for Chatswood

The NSW Government has approved a $147 million residential, commercial and retail development on a carpark site at Chatswood, with the potential to generate some 250 construction and 1,000 operational jobs.

Minister for Planning Tony Kelly said he had approved the development proposal at the Thomas St Car Park, some 150 metres from Chatswood Railway Station.

“This proposal by Welles Thomas Pty Ltd will place additional homes and employment close to public transport and services, consistent with our metropolitan planning objectives,” Mr Kelly said.

The proposal includes two towers – one 29-storey residential tower and a 21-storey commercial building. The project includes:

- Lower level and ground-floor retail uses in both towers, including cafes and a gym;
- Some 202 residential apartments, including eight affordable housing units to be transferred to Willoughby City Council;
- A pedestrian plaza, and;
- Basement car parking including 250 public parking spaces

“The Department of Planning has determined that the proposed development is appropriate and fits within a higher-density section of Chatswood’s CBD,” Mr Kelly said.

“While the proposal will result in view loss to some nearby residences, it should be kept in mind that the site has been zoned for high-density uses in the draft Willoughby local environmental plan.

“The development will contribute to the planning objectives set out by the Sydney Metropolitan Strategy and the Inner North draft Subregional Strategy in terms of growth in employment capacity for Chatswood as a major centre.

“It will also deliver more specific public benefits including a new 250 space public car park, public domain improvements in the form of a pedestrian through site link and eight affordable housing units within the development.

Some 105 conditions were placed on the project, covering issues including traffic management, developer contributions and building design.