Residential development given go ahead on former Channel 7 site at Epping

The independent Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) has given approval for the construction of three buildings on the former Channel 7 site at Epping, in Sydney's northern districts.

The approved buildings will provide 28 townhouses and associated garage car parking and landscaping.

The approval is in line with the site’s existing concept plan, approved in 2006, which allows redevelopment of the site for residential and open space purposes.

In July 2010, the PAC approved early works on the site, including earthworks, the construction of internal and external road infrastructure, a child care centre and private residential facilities.

In addition, in September 2010 the PAC approved the construction of two residential flat buildings on the site, providing for 134 units.

The Department of Planning’s Deputy Director-General Richard Pearson said the Department’s assessment of the proposal had given careful consideration to a number of important conditions including streetscape, urban design and residential amenity.

“The Department’s assessment found that the proposal was consistent with the approved concept plan and any potential impacts could be managed through the consent conditions to meet environmental requirements,” Mr Pearson said.

“To ensure these are adequately addressed, the PAC has imposed a number of conditions on the development.

“This proposed residential development is in addition to other residential accommodation currently being constructed on the site and increases the supply of new housing in Sydney’s north.

“The proposed development will go towards meeting the need for an additional 21,000 dwellings in the Parramatta council area by 2031 – an important contribution to the 770,000 new dwellings needed across the entire Sydney metropolitan area over the next 25 years.

“The redevelopment of the site will also provide more than 3.1 hectares of open space and road upgrade works for the benefit of all local residents.”

The PAC was the approval authority because a reportable political donation had been lodged in conjunction with the application.

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