Planning controls for Ashmore precinct, Erskineville
Response given to the Sydney Morning Herald

Can the Department provide a response about its involvement in changing planning controls for Ashmore precinct, Erskineville?

Department response:

The Department of Planning has responsibility to certify council local environmental plans before they progress to public exhibition.

The Department was approached by the landowner Goodman last year, raising concerns about the upcoming City of Sydney draft local environmental plan (LEP) in regard to the Ashmore precinct.

It is the case the Department required the council to increase the floor space ratio and building heights on the site in the draft LEP for public exhibition purposes.

Our decision was made solely on good planning grounds to allow public debate on this issue.

The Ashmore precinct is a major potential urban renewal site well-located close to two railway stations, existing services and the CBD. As such, it does have the potential to accommodate some of 770,000 new homes that Sydney needs in the 30 years to 2036.

The Department’s actions merely allow consideration of this matter at the public exhibition stage and may not represent its final position when the LEP is to be approved.

We will be working with the landowners, residents and the council to progress the plan.