

**Letter to the editor of the Sydney Morning Herald – not published**

20 September 2011

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure is working very closely with the City of Sydney council on the Ashmore estate issue (Moore to fight Erskineville high rise, SMH, 20/9). As such, it's wrong to say that the council has "defied" us.

The Department's staff have met regularly with council staff - along with attended public meetings - on this and other issues in the draft local environmental plan. No final decision has been made.

The Department required the council to increase the site's proposed floor space ratio and building heights during public exhibition, to get public feedback on planning controls for a very large site which is located near public transport and services.

We will await the council's report on the submissions received before making a recommendation to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure.

Tom Gellibrand  
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NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure