NSW Government and Council working together on strategic review in Warringah

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure and Warringah Council are undertaking a strategic review to identify the most appropriate zoning and land use controls for Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North.

The review will consider the range of existing land uses within Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North. It will review existing environmental constraints and infrastructure, in order to recommend the most appropriate land use, zoning and development controls to be applied to the area.

A project control group, with representatives from both Council and the department, will be formed to guide the direction of the review process. Other government agencies and key stakeholders, including landowners and the community, will also be consulted as part of the review process.

Director-General of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Sam Haddad, said the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure and Warringah MP Brad Hazzard had deferred Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North from Warringah’s comprehensive Local Environmental Plan (LEP), which was made late last year.

The areas retained their existing range of permissible uses, after residents raised concern about the E3 environmental management zone proposed for the area in the exhibited version of the LEP.

“The department clearly recognises that local government is a key partner in planning for NSW and this strategic review is a demonstration of our approach to working with local government,” Mr Haddad said.

“Community consultation is an important part of planning for the area and the community will have opportunities to be involved during the strategic review process.”

Warringah Council’s Deputy General Manager, Malcolm Ryan said: “We welcome the department’s cooperation and will continue to work to ensure that the area is appropriately zoned, until the work recommended by the NSW Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) ultimately determines future development in non-urban areas.”

The recommendations of the current strategic review will help to inform a future planning proposal to apply standard zones to the area and bring the deferred land in Oxford Falls Valley and Belrose North into Warringah’s comprehensive LEP. The more comprehensive studies which have been recommended by the PAC will follow this process.
The community, as always, will be kept informed about the progress of the review through updates on the department and council websites. It is anticipated a draft strategic review report will be publicly exhibited later this year, in addition to a public information session for residents and landowners.

**Department media contact:** Laurel-Lee Roderick, (02) 9228 6128

**Council media contact:** Belinda Noble, (02) 9942 2678