

**Media response to Sydney Morning Herald on the assessment process for the proposed development at the Balmain Leagues Club site, Rozelle**

*Response to a media query about claims the department's assessment process for this proposal is open to outside influence and the project should have already been refused.*

The department strongly rejects any claims that this project is not being assessed on merit.

We are conducting an independent and rigorous assessment of this proposal, not subject to any outside influence.

It is commonplace that we communicate with proponents, councils and community groups in order to clarify planning issues and seek responses during the assessment stage.

The department continues to have concerns with the height, bulk and scale of the current proposal and has asked the proponent to respond to those concerns.

What we have done is take the opportunity to again raise the bulk, height and scale issue with the proponent along with the need for the proponent to undertake revised traffic modelling, as required by RMS.

Any revised plans or other documentation received will be made available on the department's website.