Response to The Sydney Morning Herald on the Randwick Urban Activation Precinct (22 November 2013):

We have been working closely with the local community and partnering with Randwick City Council, to develop the future vision for the Randwick Urban Activation Precinct.

This includes involving communities upfront in decisions about planning in their area, in line with the principles of the new planning system.

The Randwick Urban Activation Precinct centres on the $1.6 million CBD and South East Light Rail and will provide additional housing close to where people work. In particular, it will assist with a greater stock of housing and housing options for workers in what is one of Sydney's major health and education precincts.

It will revitalise and upgrade the Randwick, Kensington and Kingsford local centres, accommodate new jobs at the University of NSW and hospitals, and provide new parks and pedestrian-cycle paths.

The planning process includes undertaking detailed investigations on key issues, such as jobs, housing, infrastructure to ensure the planning decisions we take now, support the delivery of the Randwick Urban Activation Precinct.

The evidence gathered, shared with the local community and council for their feedback, is then used to develop a draft proposal for the future built form of the precinct.

This draft proposal is still being developed for the Randwick Urban Activation Precinct and won't be placed on public exhibition until early 2014. This draft will include the proposed housing capacity for the area to roll out over 20 years.

The rezoning of the precinct is expected to be in place before the light rail is operational.

The CBD and South East Light Rail has been designed to provide a capacity of up to 9,000 passengers per hour, which provides a significant level of spare capacity within the system to allow for future increases in passenger demand and growth along the light rail route.