Wednesday, 20 August 2014

**Have your say on city centre university proposal**

The University of Newcastle’s proposed development for the city centre will be available for the public to look at and have their say from tomorrow.

Department of Planning and Environment’s (DP&E) Executive Director of Development Assessment Systems and Approvals Chris Wilson said that as an education facility with a project value more than $30 million, the ‘NeW Space’ proposal is being assessed as a state significant development.

“The department will work with Newcastle City Council to assess the development, carefully considering community feedback we receive during this exhibition phase,” Mr Wilson said.

The ‘NeW Space’ proposal involves:
- building a 10 storey education building in the Newcastle city centre, including lecture theatres, a library, teaching and learning spaces, and office and retail areas;
- refurbishing University House (formerly NESCA House);
- establishing pedestrian walking routes around the development and between the new building and University House;
- expanding the existing Laman Street car park;
- various landscaping and work on utilities and surrounding streets.

The development application, environmental impact statement and other accompanying documents can be viewed until Friday 19 September:

- online at majorprojects.nsw.gov.au;
- in person at the City of Newcastle Administration Centre, 282 King Street, Newcastle;
- also in Sydney at the Department of Planning and Environment, 23-33 Bridge Street.

“Listening to the community’s opinion on the proposal is an important part of the assessment process, I encourage everyone to have a look and share their thoughts,” Mr Wilson said.

The best way to provide feedback is by using the online form at majorprojects.nsw.gov.au. You can also make a written submission to:

Att: Director – Industry, Key Sites and Social Projects
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

For more information about the exhibition of the NeW Space proposal or the assessment process phone 1300 305 695.

**Media contact:** 02 9228 6128