

Mr Greg Doyle
General Manager
Wollongong City Council
Locked Bag 8821
WOLLONGONG DC NSW 2500

Our ref:IRF23/1360
Your ref:24152784

Dear Mr Doyle

Thank you for sending the Wollongong Retail and Business Centres Strategy (WRBCS) to the Department of Planning and Environment for endorsement.

I would like to congratulate Council on the significant work that has gone into researching, developing and finalising this strategy. The resulting WRBCS is a strategic document that will guide the role and growth of centres in the Wollongong LGA over the next 10-20 years.

The Strategy identifies 22 recommendations addressing issues such as the role of centres; appropriate land uses; planning for West Dapto; active and vibrant centres; accessibility/public transport; and the Wollongong City Centre.

I note that a number of the recommendations will require amendments to the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009 to amend zones and permissible uses. Please note that the endorsement of the WRBCS is not a pre-emptive endorsement of any specific future planning proposal, each of which will be assessed on its merits and will require appropriate justification and consultation.

Within that context, the Department is pleased to endorse the Wollongong Retail and Business Centres Strategy as a framework that will guide Council's decisions on the future of its villages, towns, major towns and the City Centre to meet the needs of the community.

If you would like to discuss this advice, please contact Graham Towers, Manager, Southern Region on 4247 1821.

Yours sincerely



27 July 2023

Malcolm McDonald
Executive Director
Local and Regional Planning