

That Council:

A. Notes that this Mayoral Minute was submitted to councillors for consideration only 73 minutes before the start of the council meeting. The councillors have not had much time to consider the proposed changes on such short notice, and it does not allow members of the public much time to scrutinize the validity of the claims or consider the implications of what has been proposed.

B. Notes that such extensive changes to the Draft Housing Strategy as proposed by the mayor in the Mayoral Minute will lead to a Draft Housing Strategy document that is difficult to understand, for example the three scenarios provided for each of the primary town centres are displayed but do longer appear to be of much relevance. Without seeing the proposed changes to the document in the form of a revised or marked up document, it is difficult for councillors to understand and approve the housing strategy as proposed by the mayor in its 'final form', and it is unfortunate that the public has had no opportunity to provide feedback on this housing strategy in its 'final form'.

C. Rejects the Draft Housing Strategy in the form presented to the public due to:

i. Concerns about limited public awareness and consultation. While only 253 submissions were received during the public exhibition (coinciding with pandemic restrictions), councillors have subsequently received over 1,000 emails in opposition to the Housing Strategy, indicating that public awareness of key details of the Housing Strategy during the public exhibition was low.

ii. Concerns about the appropriateness of assumptions used for the Draft Housing Strategy such as pre-pandemic housing and transport preferences, as well as pre-pandemic population projections (with more recent data suggesting that population increases are likely to be the lowest since the First World War).

iii. Community expectations for an appropriately lower local dwelling target accompanied with an appropriately lower rate for dwelling increases and community desire for proposed building heights no greater than what is currently provided in the LEP.

iv. Concerns from residents that only three scenarios were provided for each primary town centre, whilst other scenarios requested by the public were not made available for comment.

D. Staff should propose alternate approaches to the Draft Housing Strategy, addressing the concerns listed above, and present the revised scenarios to Council before the end of the year. Council will then consider whether the alternate approach is appropriate for public consultation.

E. In proposing an alternate approach to the Draft Housing Strategy, staff must also describe how they will:

i. Promote greater public awareness and consultation including but not limited to sending out an information pack to each Ku-ring-gai Household (either along with the rates notice, or as a separate addressed mail).

MM1 Draft Ku-ring-gai Housing Strategy to 2036 (Cr Ngai/Spencer)

ii. Provide a broader range of scenarios and timing for each primary town centre, along with supporting commentary on the benefits and disadvantages of each scenario.

iii. Provide information and timing on how the draft Housing Strategy will then inform updates to the Local Environment Plan.