

Mr Bjarne Nordin
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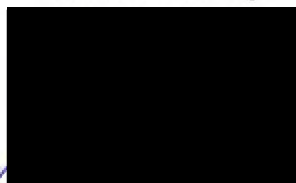
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Dear Mr Nordin

Thank you for your letter of 19 September 2018 regarding providing answers to supplementary questions arising from Anthony Manning's appearance at the Public Accounts Committee on 17 September 2018.

The supplementary questions and their answers are attached to this letter.

Yours sincerely



Dr Sylvia Corish
**RELIEVING CHIEF EXECUTIVE
SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE NSW**
27 September 2018

Performance Audit 284 – Planning for School Infrastructure

Supplementary questions and answers

Recommendation 5

Question:

1. *The response to recommendation 5 stated that the Department would continue to engage and collaborate with key government agencies, the non-government school sector and private sector to implement the School Asset Strategic Plan (SASP):*
 - *Given the large scale of the Strategic Plan, can you provide more information about how the Department of Education has progressed its collaboration with other agencies, local government, Office of Strategic Lands and Property NSW?*
 - *Can you also provide more information about what models have been developed to better collaborate with other government agencies, non-government schools, the private sector and the community.*

Answer:

The Department of Education regularly consults with relevant departments and agencies such as the Department of Planning and Environment, the Greater Sydney Commission, the Land and Housing Corporation, UrbanGrowth, Landcom and local councils and developers. A strategic engagement forum including the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Infrastructure NSW and NSW Treasury has also been established to facilitate the delivery of the Strategic Plan and the department's contribution to the State Infrastructure Strategy.

The department continues to enhance collaboration with other agencies, local government, Office of Strategic Lands and Property NSW. Recently, the department executed 31 memorandums of understanding with partners including Landcom, Sydney Olympic Park Authority, Office of Sport, University of Wollongong, PCYC, Catholic Diocese of Parramatta and local councils across NSW.

A further 22 memorandums of understanding are being drafted with partners including local councils, the Department of Planning and Environment, the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Family & Community Services, TAFE, UrbanGrowth, Greater Sydney Commission, the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong, the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay, Anglican Schools Corporation and Charles Sturt University.

Joint and shared use models are well advanced with projects in planning or delivery including shared synthetic sporting fields, regional performing arts centres, community centres/hubs, halls, libraries and indoor sporting facilities. Examples of joint use projects include new facilities delivered or in progress at Chatswood High School and Bella Vista new primary school.

The department works closely with the Office of Strategic Lands, UrbanGrowth and Landcom to consider specific opportunities for collaboration where appropriate. A number of projects are currently in progress.

Recommendation 8

Question:

2. *Recommendation 8 required the Department to advise Government on options to change operational policies and practices to reduce infrastructure requirements. The response indicated that further options are being explored, subject to extensive research and further consultation with stakeholders to manage community expectations.*
 - *Can you provide more information on how the Department of Education has reviewed and investigated various options to change operational policies and practices.*
 - *Can you give any examples of the kinds of options being explored?*
 - *What are the major constraints to be taken into account?*
 - *Has this kind of exercise been done in other jurisdictions?*

Answer:

The Department of Education continues to explore options to change operational policies and practices to reduce infrastructure requirements. Examples of policies and practices currently utilised which reduce infrastructure requirements include:

- Joint and shared use of facilities
- Development of multipurpose facilities
- Reviewing school catchment boundaries to improve utilisation across schools in a local area
- Enforcing the department's school enrolment policy to restrict out of area enrolments.

The department is continuing to explore further options including innovative joint and shared use models. The department has prepared, endorsed and launched a Community Joint Use Framework including policy, practice notes, key examples and guideline. The framework aims to support the existing Shared Use Policy and target significant major infrastructure upgrades.

Challenges for the department include ensuring that educational outcomes are not negatively impacted and engaging with community expectations.

The department collaborates with other jurisdictions as appropriate and is aware of some work occurring in areas including joint use. The department is continuing to deliver innovative solutions that address the particular needs of NSW such as the Arthur Phillip High School project, a bespoke multi-level design that will accommodate 2,000 students in the Parramatta CBD.

The department will continue to undertake extensive research and consultation as appropriate to consider options to change operational policies and practices to reduce infrastructure requirements.