



Education

Bjarne Nordin
Committee Manager
Public Accounts Committee
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

pac@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear M/s Nordin,

Re: Performance Audit – Delivering School Infrastructure

I am writing to inform you that the Department has now addressed all of the recommendations in the Delivering School Infrastructure performance audit.

The Audit Office completed its review earlier in April 2021 and provided the Department with a number of important findings and recommendations, helping it to continue delivering more than 200 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW.

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I have attached comments below to describe the actions taken by the Department to address each of the eight recommendations made by the Audit Office.

Yours sincerely,

Georgina Harrisson
SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
13 May 2022



Delivering School Infrastructure

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1. Finalise the investment prioritisation approach with agreement from key stakeholders.	Accepted	Complete	The Department has finalised a new investment prioritisation approach and service-need categorisation for meeting growth and delivering contemporary learning environments. The Framework has been endorsed by key stakeholders via the Investment Review Committee process.	SINSW
2. Finalise and update on an ongoing basis a 10-year list of priorities to meet the forecast demand for new classrooms and contemporary fit for purpose learning environments, which identifies individual projects and programs in the short-term and priority geographic areas and programs in the medium-term.	Accepted	Complete	The Department's investment prioritisation approach has been used to develop "10 Year Priority List" outputs. These are indicative, point-in-time lists of priorities, used for further internal investigation and planning.	SINSW
3. Seek a 10-year Capital Planning Limit from NSW Treasury to ensure the needs identified in the 10-year list of priorities are met and are coordinated with the forward capital programs of other agencies.	Accepted	Complete	The Department is working in consultation with Treasury and other agencies to enable a Government to make a decision on a 10-year Capital Planning Limit (CPL) for the Department of Education.	SINSW
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Education

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Committee Manager
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Dear M/s Nordin,

Re: Performance Audit – Delivering School Infrastructure


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Yours sincerely,

 Georgina Harrison
SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
13 May 2022



Delivering School Infrastructure

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2. Finalise and update on an ongoing basis a 10-year list of priorities to meet the forecast demand for new classrooms and contemporary fit for purpose learning environments, which identifies individual projects and programs in the short-term and priority geographic areas and programs in the medium-term.	Accepted	Complete	The Department's investment prioritisation approach has been used to develop "10 Year Priority List" outputs. These are indicative, point-in-time lists of priorities, used for further internal investigation and planning.	SINSW
3. Seek a 10-year Capital Planning Limit from NSW Treasury to ensure the needs identified in the 10-year list of priorities are met and are coordinated with the forward capital programs of other agencies.	Accepted	Complete	The Department is working in consultation with Treasury and other agencies to enable a Government to make a decision on a 10-year Capital Planning Limit (CPL) for the Department of Education.	SINSW
4. Improve the quality of data on cost benchmarks that underpin the annual 10-year Capital Investment Plan and updates to the School Assets Strategic Plan.	Accepted	Complete	<p>The Department undertakes an ongoing process of cost management of its projects ensuring value for money and identifying a 'benchmark' cost.</p> <p>The Department has improved the quality of cost benchmarking data using construction and project cost data from recently completed program of works. This supports updated cost plan templates and enables consistent, efficient and achievable costs to be allocated to each</p>	SINSW

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