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Tuesday 6th April 2021

The Hon. Rob Stokes, MP
52 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Response to:

Release of EIE – Design and Place SEPP

On behalf of:

Institute of Architects NSW Chapter, Australian Institute of Landscape Architects NSW Chapter and the Planning Institute of Australia (NSW)

Dear Minister Stokes

The Australian Institute of Architects (the Institute), the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA), the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) and their members are dedicated to raising the quality of our communities. We seek to improve the enduring health and wellbeing of all Australians. The design of the built environment and the landscape within which it is situated shapes the places where we live, work and meet. Between us, we represent over 20 000 members nationally, united in ensuring the design of these places best meets the needs of our communities now and into the future.

We welcome the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (DPIE) release of the Design and Place EIE for feedback and each of our organisations is in the process of preparing independent and detailed submissions.

We would like to commend the GANSW and DPIE for elevating ecological sustainability, the protection of the environment and our connection with Country to the forefront of place-based design planning. We strongly support the five key principles set out in the EIE. Our Institutes look forward to working with the GANSW to ensure these principles form the foundation of a robust framework which supports future-focused design quality and is integrated appropriately with NSW planning processes.



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Our organisations believe that the Urban Design Guide will provide important guidance to ensure that all communities have access to amenities and spaces which are so vital for our health and well-being. We welcome engagement on its development and implementation. Similarly, we continue to support the operation of the Apartment Design Guide and BASIX and welcome the opportunity through detailed submissions to ensure these tools achieve the best possible design and sustainability results.

We recognise this is a large body of work and we note it is ambitious in its scope and nature. We thank the GANSW and DPIE for showing leadership in this area and for striving to bring focus to place-based design. We believe this work will be vital into the future as we continue to face complex challenges, such as climate change.

The Australian Institute of Architects (the Institute), the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) and the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) are grateful for the chance to provide feedback on this EIE and we look forward to continuing to work closely with government for the benefit of all NSW communities.

Yours sincerely

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We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.