

11 June 2025

Central Coast Council PO Box 20 Wyong, NSW 2259 By email: engageme@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

RE: Future use of the current Gosford Library building

Dear Central Coast Council,

Urban Development Institute of Australia NSW (UDIA) is the state's leading development industry body. We represent the leading participants in the industry and have more than 450 members across the entire spectrum of the industry. We are proud to count Central Coast Council (Council) as a valued member.

We welcome this opportunity to comment on the future use of the current Gosford Library building.

UDIA is excited that the new Gosford Regional Library is nearing completion and will soon open, offering exceptional new facilities and utility for the Central Coast region. The opening of the new Regional Library means the old Gosford Library building will no longer be used for its current purpose, and Council is considering whether to demolish or repurpose the existing building.

UDIA strongly endorses the option to demolish the existing Gosford Library building in order to make way for improvements to Kibble Park that are needed to enhance the liveability and revitalisation of the Gosford CBD. Major new developments are expected to bring more than 5,000 new residents to the Gosford CBD in the next five years. Improvements to Kibble Park are needed to provide more safe open space, recreation and entertainment opportunities within walking distance of these exciting new developments. The demolition of the existing library building is a necessary step to enable the key enhancements envisioned under the Kibble Park Place Plan.

Demolition is the fiscally sound option, as it will remove the significant cost imposts of renovating and maintaining the existing building which has substantially deteriorated with age.

UDIA urges Council to move forward with the demolition of the existing building and accelerate the delivery of the Kibble Park Place Plan.

We appreciate this opportunity to offer our comments on this issue. Please contact UDIA's Regional Manager Elizabeth York at <u>eyork@udiansw.com.au</u> or 0434 914 901 with any follow up.

Kind regards,

Hon. Stuart Ayres Chief Executive Officer

We are city-shapers.

Allison Basford Chair, Central Coast Committee

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