

# CAMDEN COUNCIL

## Media Release

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7 April 2015

### GREAT REPORT CARD FOR COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

The 2013/14 Local Development Performance Monitoring report has been released by the Department of Planning and Environment and the results show that Camden Council, when compared to other similar Councils in Greater Western Sydney, has one of the fastest Development Application (DA) processes.

Camden Council determined 1,058 DAs and approved \$513 million worth of development within Camden during the 2013/2014 period, ranking the 9<sup>th</sup> highest local government area in the State for the value of development.

During the reporting period, Council determined development with a mean gross determination time of only 36 days. The 'gross determination time' is the time taken from the day the DA is lodged to the day the DA is determined – with no days excluded.

Mayor of Camden, Cr Lara Symkowiak said this is a great result for Camden Council which is one of the fastest growing local government areas in the State.

“For mean gross DA determination time, Camden Council was faster than the other growth councils of Blacktown, Campbelltown, Liverpool and The Hills in the categories of Alterations & Additions and Single Dwellings. For example, Camden determined a single dwelling DA on average within 39 days, whereas Blacktown took 49 days, Campbelltown 59 days, The Hills 71 days and Liverpool 82 days.”

“In the Commercial/Retail/Office category, Camden was also at the top of the growth centres pack. Mean gross DA determination in Camden for this category was 81 days, The Hills also averaged 81 days, Campbelltown took 98 days, Blacktown 114 days and Liverpool 125 days.”

“I am proud to lead a Council that in spite of the pressures that development and population growth places on it, is constantly seeking to improve its service delivery and efficiency to manage the growth, comply with legislation and meet the needs of our customers in a timely manner.”

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“During the reporting period, Council has introduced a number of new processes and procedures to improve the efficiency and customer service. These include providing information on DAs on Council’s website, an improved pre-DA service and moving towards a paperless process in the submission on assessment of DAs.

“These are great achievements for Council and the community”. Cr Symkowiak said.

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**Words: 360**

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