



# Media Release

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## **Sydney Water takes action after listening to the community of Woronora Heights**

To show local residents their voices have been heard, Sydney Water has voluntarily withdrawn a development application to subdivide a portion of property in Woronora Heights.

Sydney Water General Manager of Asset Lifecycle, Paul Plowman said working with the community is vital and, in this instance, not only have we listened to their concerns, but we have also reassured them by taking action.

“We want to thank the local community for providing feedback and raising concerns, which gave us an extremely clear representation of how the local and wider communities were feeling. This is not something our team took lightly, and it is important for us to show the community that their concerns have been heard and taken on board,” said Mr Plowman.

“Giving back to the community is part of who we are at Sydney Water, and this allowed us to keep the residents and their concerns at the forefront while we conducted a final review of the application.

“We wanted to deliver the best possible outcome and after consulting with the council and the community, we would like to advise that the application to subdivide the land has been officially withdrawn,” said Mr Plowman.

After initial concerns were raised about potential wildlife and flora and fauna being lost, Sydney Water conducted a detailed study of more than 500 hours including the use of recording devices and direct scientific methods of fauna detection as well as using an ecologist to specifically target koalas.



“I would like to reassure the community that if any of the studies we carried out had indicated there was going to be any kind of disruption to a koala colony or wildlife corridor, we would never have pursued the application from that point.”

Sydney Water conducts regular reviews of all its land holdings and often disposes of land which is no longer required. This enables Sydney Water to take the proceeds of any land sale and reinvest it into the repairs and maintenance of other assets which ultimately ensures our customers' water bills remain as affordable as possible.

