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18 Pindari Place
WALLERAWANG NSW 2845
ABN: 71 274 600 253

Dear Mr J Nichols

I am writing to you in response to councils request for payment of Section 94A Development Contributions, as set out in schedule A (conditions of consent), number 3. for Development DA176/19.

We are writing to you in the hope of having the fees outlined in schedule A, 3. waived on the basis of the below mentioned circumstances.

Pied Piper Preschool is a Not for Profit community-based preschool, a registered charity/ not for profit with the Australian charities and not-for-profits commission. Pied Piper is managed by a volunteer parent committee and is licensed by the NSW Department of Education and communities.

Pied Piper is solely funded by student fees and NSW government funding. As a not for profit, fees are kept as low as possible to cover running costs and to ensure equal opportunity for children in the community. We prioritise children with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children from low income families, all of whom pay lower fees. All funds received go back into the service.

Pied Piper has a long, and well established relationship with the local community including the construction of our current building by the community for the community in 1991. Pied Piper preschool services approximately 80 families with the proposed development providing up to 20 additional preschool positions for the community. Our facility is accessible to all families with young children aged 2-5 and we also work closely with health and therapy services in the area to support families at a time when these services are very scarce. Pied Piper preschool is currently rated as Exceeding in all rated areas by the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority.

By definition, on your website the Section 94A fees exist to enable local government (Councils) to provide public facilities and services required as a consequence of new development; Pied Piper is providing high quality and much needed services in the Lithgow LGA.

Pied Piper Preschool committee feel that we have a case for being exempt from the fees as per Lithgow City Councils Section 94A development contributions plan, C7, section B: "Development by or on behalf of the NSW government for public infrastructure such as hospitals, police stations, education facilities and public transport infrastructure".

Pied Pipers works are being funded by the NSW governments Start Strong Capital works program to construct a new Education Facility. This funding had to be applied for through a competitive process and we were fortunate to be successful.

The funding was offered as the NSW Government acknowledges the shortage of education facilities providing Preschool programs in a time when there is a government focus on every child being able to attend preschool in the year before school. Essentially the development is being completed for the community on behalf of and funded by the NSW Government.

Member for Bathurst Paul Toole stated in the Lithgow Mercury Feb 6 2019 in relation to our successful grant application, that looking forward, population data shows the number of preschool – aged children in NSW will increase by six percent by 2021. The NSW government is meeting this head on and recognises that children and families living in growth areas require high quality preschool services that suit their needs.

Pied Piper is asking council to also look forward and support this amazing opportunity by waiving the Section 94A fees and allowing these funds to be put towards the high quality service we provide for the community.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of the Associations request, we look forward to your response.

Kind Regards, Erin Monds Vice President

Anita van den Berg – Director

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