

Attachment C1

Planning Proposal – 4-22 Wentworth Avenue, Surry Hills



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Amendment to Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012

November 2019

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Executive summary

The City of Sydney (the City) has prepared this Planning Proposal for the site at 4-22 Wentworth Avenue, Surry Hills, in response to a request from the site owner, Pongrass Properties Pty Ltd, for the City to prepare a planning proposal for the site.

This Planning Proposal explains the intent of and justification for proposed amendments to the Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP) as it applies to the site. This Planning Proposal has been prepared by the City in accordance with Section 3.33 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the Department of Planning and Environment's 'A guide to preparing planning proposals' and 'A guide to preparing local environmental plans.'

The site is approximately 1,219 square metres in area and is bounded by Wentworth Avenue to the west and Wemyss Lane to the north and east. Commercial warehouses are located to the south of the site. Existing development on the site includes a hotel, convenience store, nightclub and commercial office and business premises. The site is heritage listed in Schedule 5 of the LEP, known as 'former warehouse group including interiors' (I2271). The listing includes nine warehouse buildings at 4-34 Wentworth Avenue, Surry Hills.

Under existing LEP controls, the site is zoned B4 Mixed Use. No. 4-6 Wentworth Avenue has a maximum building height of 22m and a maximum floor space ratio (FSR) of 6:1. No. 8-22 Wentworth Avenue has a maximum building height of 18m and a maximum FSR of 5:1. The site's B4 Mixed Use zone permits hotel and commercial uses on the site.

The City prepared the Planning Proposal following a detailed review of the proponent's planning proposal request. The City has worked with the proponent to incorporate various changes to address issues relating to the building bulk and scale, solar access and overshadowing to neighbouring residential properties, relationship to the street and surrounding buildings and heritage.

The intent of the planning proposal is to encourage development of hotel and motel accommodation with a built form that responds to heritage and neighbouring amenity by redistributing existing permitted floor space plus providing an incentive for design excellence with additional floor space.

The Planning Proposal is to amend the LEP to:

- Insert provisions in Division 5 Site Specific Provisions to increase the maximum building height control from 22m at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue to a maximum RL 92.59 (or around 62m) and from 18m at 8-22 Wentworth Avenue to RL 50.00 (or around 24m) if the entire site is developed for 'hotel or motel accommodation', in spite of Clause 4.3 of the LEP.
- Insert provisions in Division 5 Site Specific Provisions to increase the maximum FSR control from 6:1 and 5:1 (5.22:1 average) to 5.7:1 across 4-22 Wentworth Avenue for 'hotel or motel accommodation' only, in spite of Clause 4.4 of the LEP. The proposal may be eligible for up to 10% additional floor space subject to achieving design excellence. This represents a maximum FSR of 6.3:1.
- Insert a new site-specific subclause in Clause 6.21 specifying that development on the site demonstrating design excellence cannot obtain additional height.
- Insert a new site-specific subclause in clause 4.6 specifying that the clause does not allow development on the site to contravene the maximum building height development standard.

The Planning Proposal does not seek to change the building height or FSR for types of development other than 'hotel or motel accommodation'. The existing zoning will be retained.

Development envisaged under the Planning Proposal is for a hotel development comprising about 7,500 square metres of gross floor area dedicated to a hotel or motel accommodation use, with a restaurant at ground floor as well as a basement level featuring bicycle and motorbike parking and end of trip facilities.

The Planning Proposal to increase the maximum building height allows for the existing permitted floor space to be achieved and the increase to the maximum floor space ratio facilitates hotel or motel accommodation to meet strategic needs. Encouraging the hotel use through the provision of additional height and floor space is consistent with the City's 'Visitor Accommodation Action Plan' (2015). The Plan seeks to enhance tourism infrastructure, including facilitating new hotels and accommodation opportunities.

The Planning Proposal assists the City in achieving the objectives of the NSW Government's Eastern City District Plan. In particular, the Planning Proposal will allow the provision of a new hotel development that will assist with diversifying the hotel market and meeting visitor demand. The proposal is consistent with Planning Priority E7 – 'Growing a stronger and more competitive Harbour CBD' and Planning Priority E13 – 'Supporting growth of targeted industry sectors' of the Eastern City District Plan, as it supports the Harbour CBD's entertainment, cultural, tourist and conference assets and status as one of the world's premier tourism and major events destinations through the delivery of a new hotel development, directly contributing to Sydney's visitor economy which attract millions of domestic and international visitors each year. The Planning Proposal facilitates the supply of new tourist and visitor accommodation which will result in additional full time employment opportunities (from 62 to 118 jobs), as well as increasing Sydney's accommodation stock.

The City has prepared a draft site-specific amendment to Sydney Development Control Plan 2012 (the draft DCP) to help ensure the objectives and intended outcomes of this Planning Proposal are achieved. The draft DCP controls create site-specific controls relating to the built form of the proposed development, heritage conservation, design excellence, amenity requirements and sustainability.

The City intends to publicly exhibit this Planning Proposal concurrently with the draft DCP.

1. Site identification

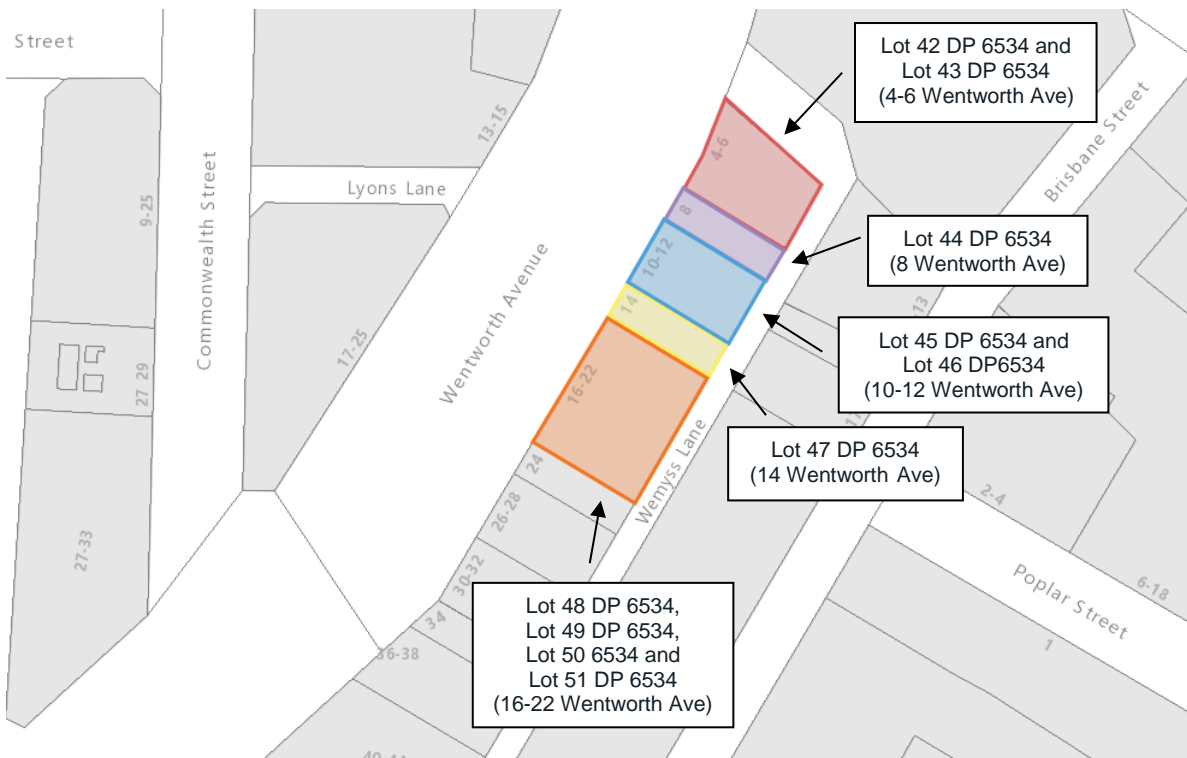
1.1. Site identification

The site comprises eleven separate lots as follows:

- Lot 42 DP 6534 and Lot 43 DP 6534, known as 4-6 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 44 DP 6534, known as 8 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 45 DP 6534 and Lot 46 DP6534, known as 10-12 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 47 DP 6534, known as 14 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 48 DP 6534, Lot 49 DP 6534, Lot 50 6534 and Lot 51 DP 6534, known as 16-22 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 52 DP 6534, known as 24 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 53 DP 6534 and Lot 54 DP 6534, known as 26-28 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 55 DP 6534 and Lot 56 DP6534, known as 30-32 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 57 DP 6534, known as 34 Wentworth Avenue
- Lot 58 DP 6534 and Lot 59 DP 6534, known as 36-38 Wentworth Avenue and
- Lot 1 DP 1031245, known as 40-44 Wentworth Avenue, Surry Hills.

The lots are shown at Figure 1.

Figure 1: Land affected by this Planning Proposal



1.2. Site location

The site is located in Surry Hills in the City of Sydney. Museum station is about 200m west of the site, and Central station is about 650m south-west of the site. Hyde Park is less than 100m to the north of the site with Harmony Park less than 100m to the south of the site. The site is located across the road from the designated Central Sydney area. The site is located close to the intersection between Liverpool Street and Wentworth Avenue to the north, with Oxford Street to the north-east, and is on the intersection between Goulburn Street and Wentworth Avenue to the south.

The site has four road frontages: Wentworth Avenue to the west, Wemyss Lane to the north and east and Goulburn Street to the south. A site location plan and aerial photo of the site are shown at Figures 2 and 3.

Figure 2: Site location

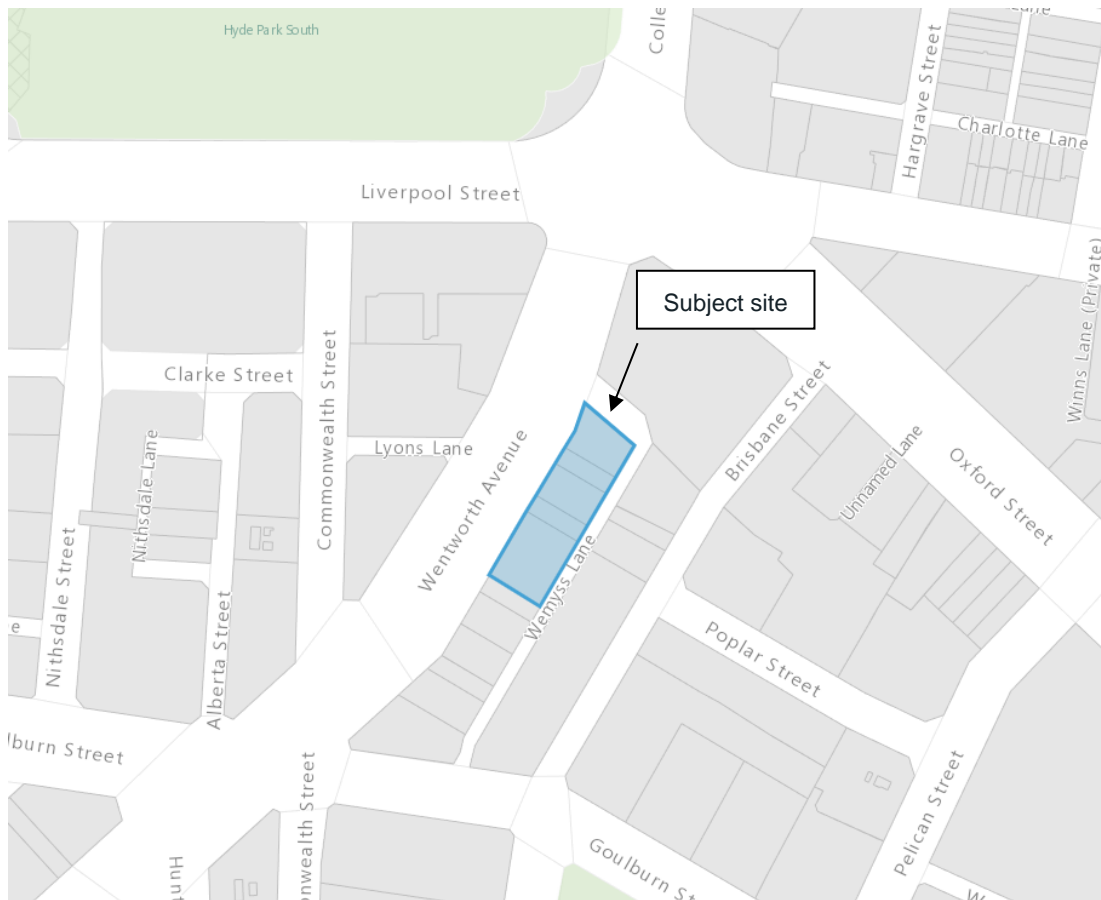
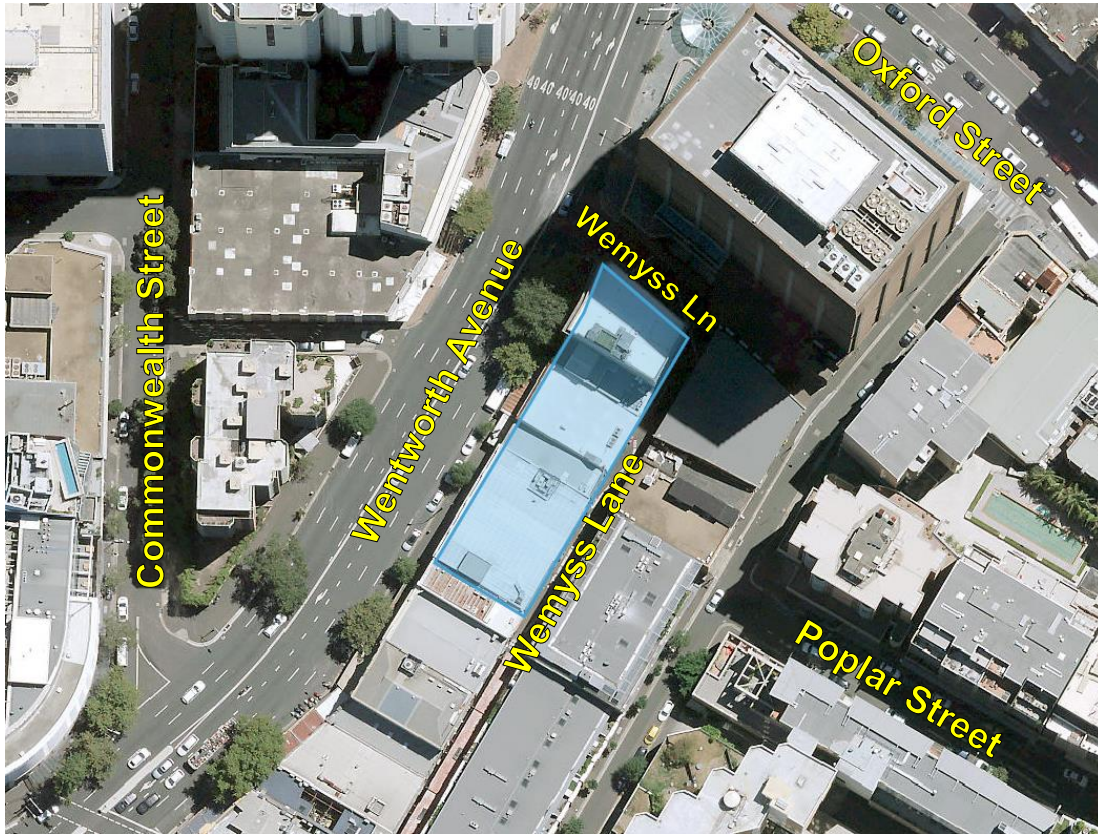


Figure 3: Aerial photo of the site



1.3. Site characteristics and context

The site is rectangular in shape and has a total area of 1,219m². The site's western boundary fronts Wentworth Avenue and is about 65m long. The site's northern and eastern boundaries front Wemyss Lane, with a 21m frontage to the north and a 60m frontage to the east.

Existing development on the site consists of five buildings constructed between 1915 and 1921, ranging in height from 3 storeys to 7 storeys. The buildings all belong to a local group heritage item under the LEP known as 'former warehouse group including interiors' (I2271). The site is not located in a Heritage Conservation Area.

- 4-6 Wentworth Avenue is a 7 storey painted brick Federation building with basement currently occupied by a hotel use known as 'Hotel Stellar', and was constructed in 1918, with additional storeys added to the building in 1925. The site has a gross floor area (GFA) of 1791m².
- 8 Wentworth Avenue is a four storey brick building with basement constructed in 1917 and is currently used in association with the neighbouring hotel. The site has a GFA of 404m².
- 10-12 Wentworth Avenue is a 3 storey building with basement in the inter-war Chicagoesque style constructed between 1919 and 1921. It comprises a mix of commercial uses, including a convenience store at ground floor and a private college on the floors above. The site has a GFA of 730m².
- 14 Wentworth Avenue is a 3 storey Federation warehouse style building built between 1915 and 1917 currently used for commercial purposes. The site has a GFA of 303m².
- 16-22 Wentworth Avenue is a four storey rendered brick warehouse constructed in 1916 in the inter-war Chicagoesque style. The ground floor is occupied by a nightclub

known as 'The Soda Factory'. Upper floors are occupied by a private college. The site has a GFA of 1879m².

The total gross floor area for existing development is 5,107m². The site is fully built out with some parking accessed off Wemyss Lane, and no vegetation. The site slopes downwards from north to south with a fall of about 4.5m.

Surrounding context varies in land use and form. The 24-storey 'Memocorp' building is located immediately to the north across Wemyss Lane. Buildings located to the east of the site across Wemyss Lane include a three storey warehouse building used as a liquor store/distribution centre, a two storey terrace used as a restaurant, a six storey building owned and used by the Philatelic Association of NSW, and a part four, part six storey residential flat building known as Meta apartments. The rear facades of these buildings face the subject site.

A four storey commercial warehouse adjoins the site to the south and is part of the same group local heritage listing as the subject site. The western side of Wentworth Avenue features a mix of commercial and residential buildings varying between four storeys and 14 storeys. A 30 storey residential apartment building is located on the corner of Liverpool Street and Wentworth Avenue, opposite the Memocorp building.

Surrounding development is mixed, including commercial office and business uses, hotel and tourist and visitor accommodation, food and drinks premises, pubs and clubs and residential. The site is located just outside the Central Sydney boundary, which runs the length of Wentworth Avenue. The bottom of Oxford Street is about 70m to the north of the site, which is known for bars and clubs, eateries, shopping, and diversity of businesses. The site also borders Sydney's CBD, and is positioned between the City's villages of Darlinghurst and Surry Hills.

The area features a variety of existing tourist and visitor accommodation, including hostels, serviced apartments and a range of hotels. The existing hotel on site at 4-6 and 8 Wentworth Avenue is known as 'Hotel Stellar' and comprises 36 rooms.

Museum train station is about 200m west of the site. Sydney's Central train station is about 650m to the south-west of the site. The area is well serviced by bus routes running along Elizabeth Street and Castlereagh Street, along Oxford Street, and through Surry Hills.

Figures 4 to 9 show existing development on the site. The surrounding area is shown in Figures 10 to 13.

Figure 4: Site viewed from Wentworth Avenue, looking north-east (site outlined in red)



Figure 5: Site viewed from Liverpool Street, looking south down Wentworth Avenue



Figure 6: No's 4-6 and 8 Wentworth Avenue, looking east



Figure 7: No's 8, 10-12 and 14 Wentworth Avenue, looking east



Figure 8: No's 14 and 16-22 Wentworth Avenue, looking east (site shown in red)



Figure 9: Wemyss Lane, looking south



Figure 10: Wentworth Avenue, looking south to Central station



Figure 11: Wentworth Avenue, looking north to Liverpool Street intersection



Figure 12: Wemyss Lane, rear facade of Brisbane Street properties, across from subject site



Figure 13: Front facade of Brisbane Street properties, located to the east of the subject site



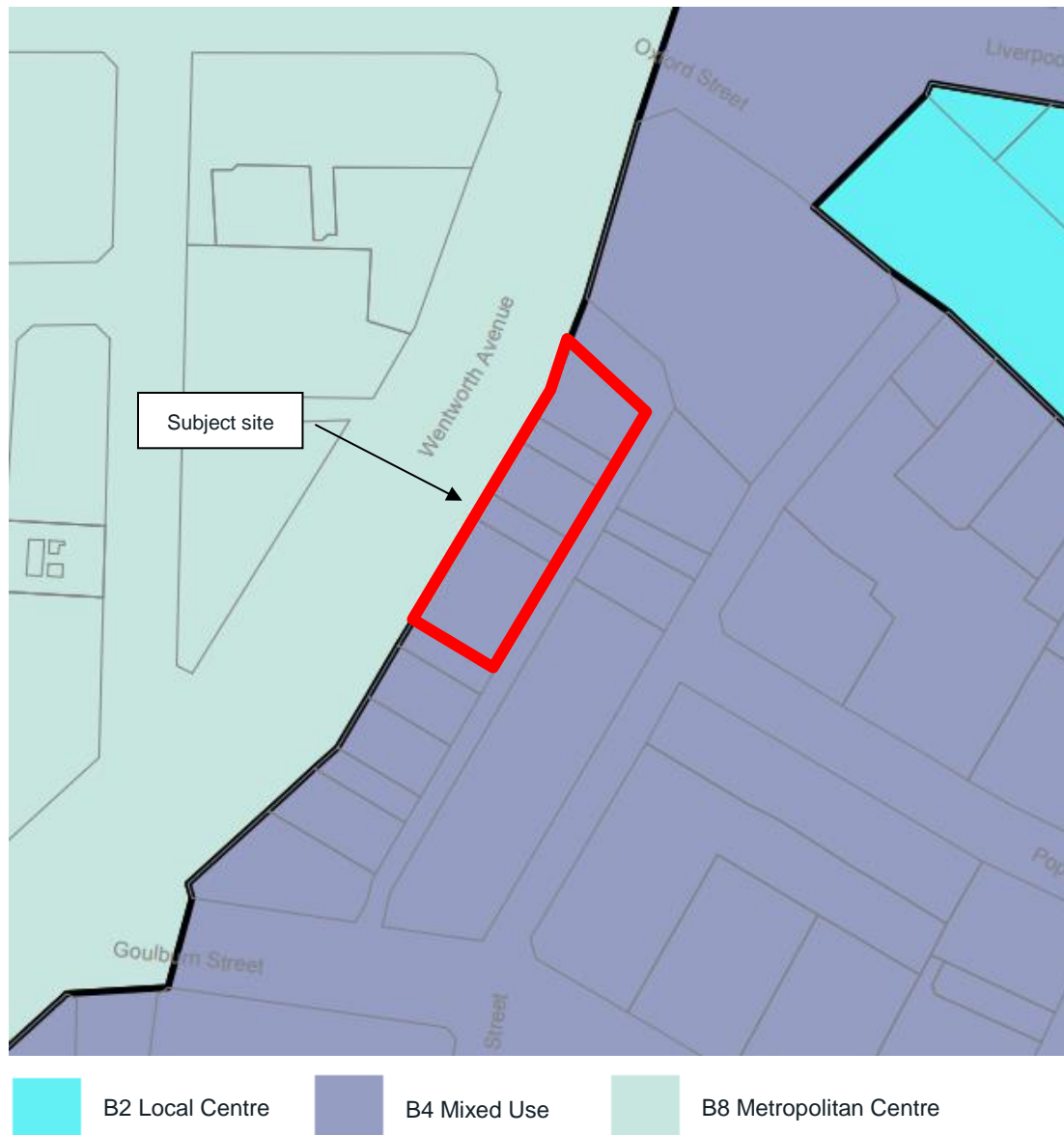
2. Existing planning controls

The LEP contains zoning and principal development standards for the site. These are discussed below.

2.1. Zoning

Zoning is shown in the Land Zoning Maps referred to in clause 2.2 of the LEP. The site is zoned B4 Mixed Use, as shown in the extract at Figure 14. The objectives of the zone include providing a mixture of compatible land uses, integrating suitable business, office, residential, retail and other development in accessible locations so as to maximise public transport patronage and encourage walking and cycling and to ensure uses support the viability of centres. The zoning permits a broad range of uses including the existing uses and tourist and visitor accommodation. This Planning Proposal does not seek to change the site's existing zoning.

Figure 14: Extract from Sydney LEP 2012 Zoning Map



2.2. Building height

Maximum height controls are shown in the Height of Building Maps referred to in clause 4.3 of the LEP. The site has a maximum building height control of 22m at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue and 18m at 8-22 Wentworth Avenue.

This Planning Proposal is to amend the building height for hotel or motel accommodation use only through a site specific clause in the LEP. An extract of the relevant Height of Buildings Map from the LEP is shown in Figure 15.

Figure 15: Extract from Sydney LEP 2012 Building Height Map



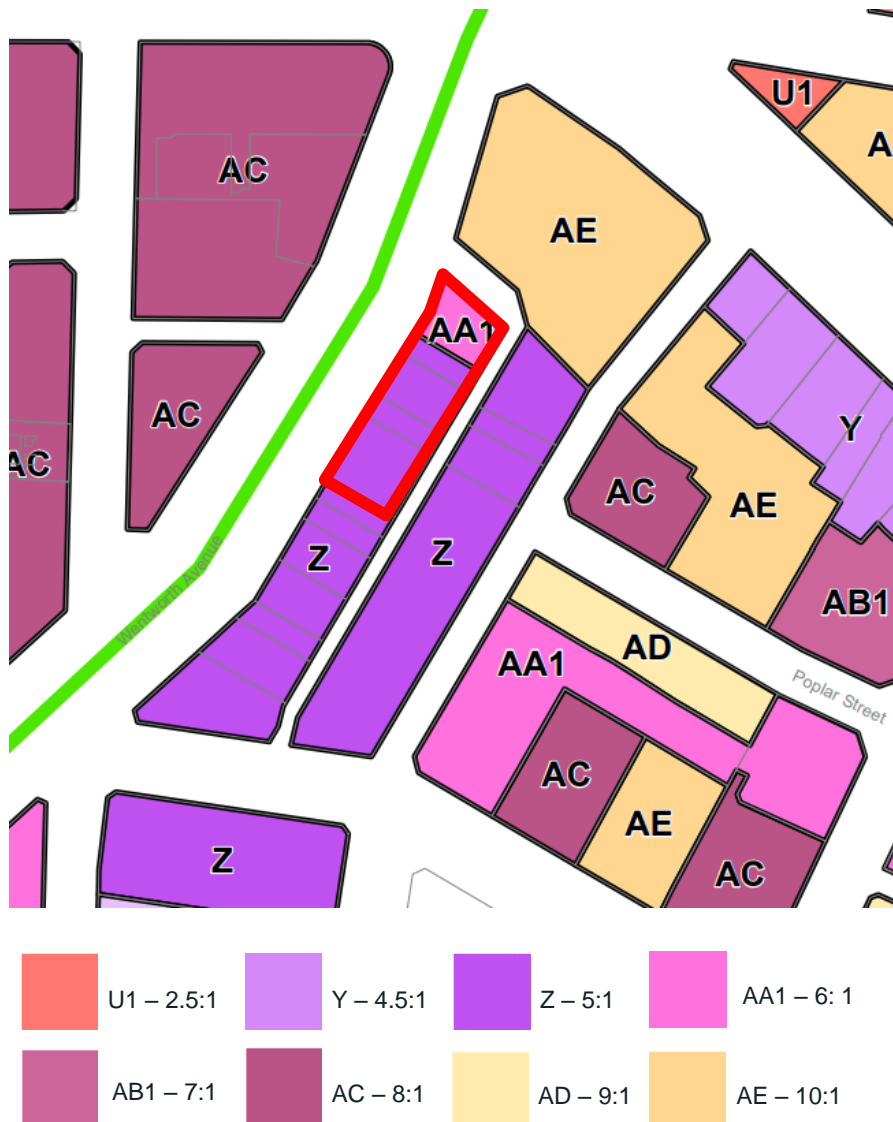
2.3. Floor Space Ratio

Maximum floor space ratio controls are shown in the Floor Space Ratio Maps referred to in clause 4.4 of the LEP. The site has a maximum floor space ratio control of 6:1 at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue, and 5:1 at 8-44 Wentworth Avenue.

This Planning Proposal is to amend the FSR for hotel or motel accommodation use only for 4-22 Wentworth Avenue, and to amend the FSR for strategic commercial uses for 24-44

Wentworth Avenue through a site specific clause in the LEP. An extract of the relevant Floor Space Ratio Map from the LEP is shown in Figure 16.

Figure 16: Extract from Sydney LEP 2012 Floor Space Ratio Map



2.4. Heritage

Most buildings in the street block belong to a local group heritage item under the LEP known as ‘former warehouse group including interiors’ (I2271) at 4-34 Wentworth Avenue, Surry Hills.

The southernmost site in the street block, at 40-44 Wentworth Avenue, is an individually listed local heritage item known as ‘Macquarie Hotel including interior’ (I1647).

Three heritage listed items are located nearby including a ‘former warehouse (142-148 Goulburn Street) including interior’ (I1455) to the east of the site, ‘former warehouse facades “Mark Foy’s”’ at 133 Goulburn Street (I1554) to the south of the site and “Griffith’s Building” including interior’ at 46-52 Wentworth Avenue (I1648) to the south-east of the site.

The subject site is not within a Heritage Conservation Area. An extract of the relevant Heritage Map from the LEP is shown in Figure 17.

Figure 17: Extract from Sydney LEP 2012 Heritage Map



2.5. Planning proposal request: 4-22 Wentworth Avenue, Surry Hills

In October 2013, Pongrass Properties Pty Ltd, the landowner of the subject site, approached the City to initiate discussions to change the planning controls on site to facilitate a hotel development.

The City has worked extensively with the landowner and their consultant team to explore potential built form outcomes.

In July 2018, the landowner submitted a Planning Proposal request to the City of Sydney. The request included a Planning Justification Report, and an Urban Design Report shown at Appendix A1. The City has prepared this Planning Proposal following consideration of the request.

The request sought to amend the Sydney LEP 2012 to increase the maximum building height control from the current 18 metres and 22 metres to a height of RL 100.57, or around 70m, and to increase the maximum floor space ratio to 6.3:1 for the site for the purpose of hotel or motel accommodation only.

The City prepared this Planning Proposal following detailed review and assessment of the proponent's proposed development concept. Through collaboration between the City and the proponent, the proposed changes to the height and FSR standards have been revised in response to overshadowing and heritage concerns.

The Planning Proposal seeks to increase the maximum building height control to RL 92.59 and to increase the maximum FSR to 5.7:1 across the site for hotel or motel accommodation only.

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It is noted that Clause 6.21 of Sydney LEP 2012 specifies that an additional 10 per cent height or FSR (not both) may be awarded where design excellence is demonstrated through a competitive design process.

The proposed controls facilitate a 7,500sqm gross floor area hotel development with ancillary food and drink premises at the ground floor and end of trip facilities in the basement.

An amendment to Sydney DCP 2012, to be exhibited concurrently with this Planning Proposal, contains more detailed site-specific planning provisions.

The Planning Proposal and draft DCP addresses the issues arising from the assessment of the proponent's Planning Proposal request.

3. Objectives and intended outcomes

The Planning Proposal is to incentivise the redevelopment of 4-22 Wentworth Avenue, Surry Hills, for hotel or motel accommodation development that:

- contributes to and enhances Sydney's diverse hotel accommodation market that caters to changing visitor demand, consistent with the City's Visitor Accommodation Action Plan (2015) and the Eastern City District Plan's tourism and industry objectives
- is in an area with good access to public transport, the Sydney CBD and its attractions and its nearby villages
- achieves design excellence and improves the site's amenity and contribution to the surrounding area
- is sympathetic to the surrounding built form context, including height and bulk and scale, resulting in a building that is compatible with the group heritage item on site whilst limiting impacts on surrounding development
- appropriately conserves and enhances the significance of the heritage fabric on site, and
- preserves adequate solar access to existing neighbouring properties.

4. Explanation of provisions

To achieve the intended outcomes this Planning Proposal seeks to amend Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 as follows:

- Introduce a new clause under Division 5 Site Specific Provisions to enable additional height up to a plane established by a series of coordinates as shown in Table 1 below and floor space up to 5.7:1, if the entire site is developed for 'hotel or motel accommodation' use, with ancillary uses at ground floor.
- Enable Council to award a design excellence bonus for additional floor space only, excluding additional height, based on the FSR contained in this clause instead of the mapped FSR.
- The site specific provisions for additional height and FSR can only be accessed where 4-22 Wentworth Avenue are taken to be a single site area.
- Amend clause 4.6(8) so that the maximum building height for the site cannot be varied beyond that considered in this planning proposal.
- Amend Division 5 Site Specific Provisions to include a site-specific clause specifying that a building demonstrating design excellence on the site may be awarded an increase to the maximum floor space ratio under clause 6.21 but not an increase to the maximum building height beyond that considered under this Planning Proposal.

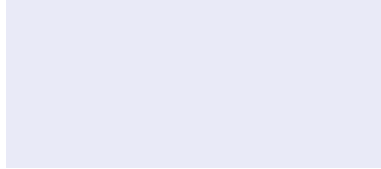
The site-specific provisions establish the maximum height and base floor space ratio to achieve intended outcomes. This clause is intended to allow for additional floor space awarded through a competitive design process, to be accommodated within the specified maximum height and building envelope established in the accompanying site-specific DCP. The amendments do not permit further increases to the development standards through clause 4.6 or conversion of a building using these standards to residential accommodation or serviced apartments.

Table 1: Plane coordinates and relevant height limits

Lot number	Plane defined by	Height limit
Lots 42, 43, 44, 45, part lot 46	X=334635.65 Y=6249982.84	RL 92.59
	X=334631.96 Y=6249967.04	RL 86.83
	X=334630.53 Y=6249960.91	RL 84.60
	X=334628.87 Y=6249953.78	RL 82.00
	X=334644.90 Y=6249974.76	RL 84.11
	X=334644.90 Y=6249974.76	RL 79.20

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	X=334649.59 Y=6249970.66 X=334647.70 Y=6249967.44	
	X=334643.39 Y=6249960.10	RL 77.82
	X=334640.42 Y=6249955.04	RL 76.86
	X=334636.88 Y=6249949.01	RL 75.73
Part lot 46, lots 47, 48, 49, 50 and 51	X=334617.50 Y=6249954.32	RL 50.00
	X=334601.99 Y=6249928.24	RL 50.00



5. Justification

This section is structured as follows:

- 5.1 – Description of the proposed development concept
- 5.2 – Proposed changes to, benefits of and managing impacts of increasing building height and floor space ratio controls
- 5.3 – Draft development control plan
- 5.4 – Need for the planning proposal
- 5.5 – Relationship to strategic planning framework
- 5.6 – Environmental, social and economic impact
- 5.7 – State and Commonwealth interests

5.1. Description of the proposed development concept

The City's vision for the development of the site is based on an assessment of the proponent's concept, which the City has amended to address issues and achieve improved outcomes.

The Planning Proposal will facilitate a hotel development to be constructed above existing heritage listed buildings on site whilst enabling the structures to be retained and conserved. New building heights will range from 20m to around 62 metres (RL 92.59).

The proposed development concept consists of two main elements: an 8 to 10 storey addition above 4-6 Wentworth Avenue, which partially extends over 8 and 10-12 Wentworth Avenue; and a two storey addition above 8, 10-12, 14 and 16-22 Wentworth Avenue.

The maximum building envelope for the subject proposal has been determined by overshadowing requirements. Due to solar access constraints, the taller portion of the envelope is angular in shape, with a setback of between 2.7m and 7m immediately above the 7 storey building at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue. The southern wing of the envelope is well set back from the Wentworth Avenue boundary, transitioning out from 2m to 7m above number 4-6, then to 14.6m, north to south. See Figures below. The maximum height of the envelope, at around 62m, represents an increase to the height control at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue of 40m. The roof plane of the tower also slopes from north-west to south-east, based on the angle of the sun on 21 June (winter solstice).

The maximum building envelope features a simple cantilevered form at upper levels, as shown in Figures below. The cantilevered section of the tower features a setback along Wentworth Avenue which begins at 1m immediately above the northernmost corner and increases to 10m north to south from the front elevation of the existing buildings. Achieving the cantilever form is subject to the future detailed design of the building responding appropriately to the heritage listed warehouse buildings below, and exhibiting design excellence. Additional FSR (up to 10%) is required to be awarded to achieve the projecting upper form.

Figure 18: Setbacks plan

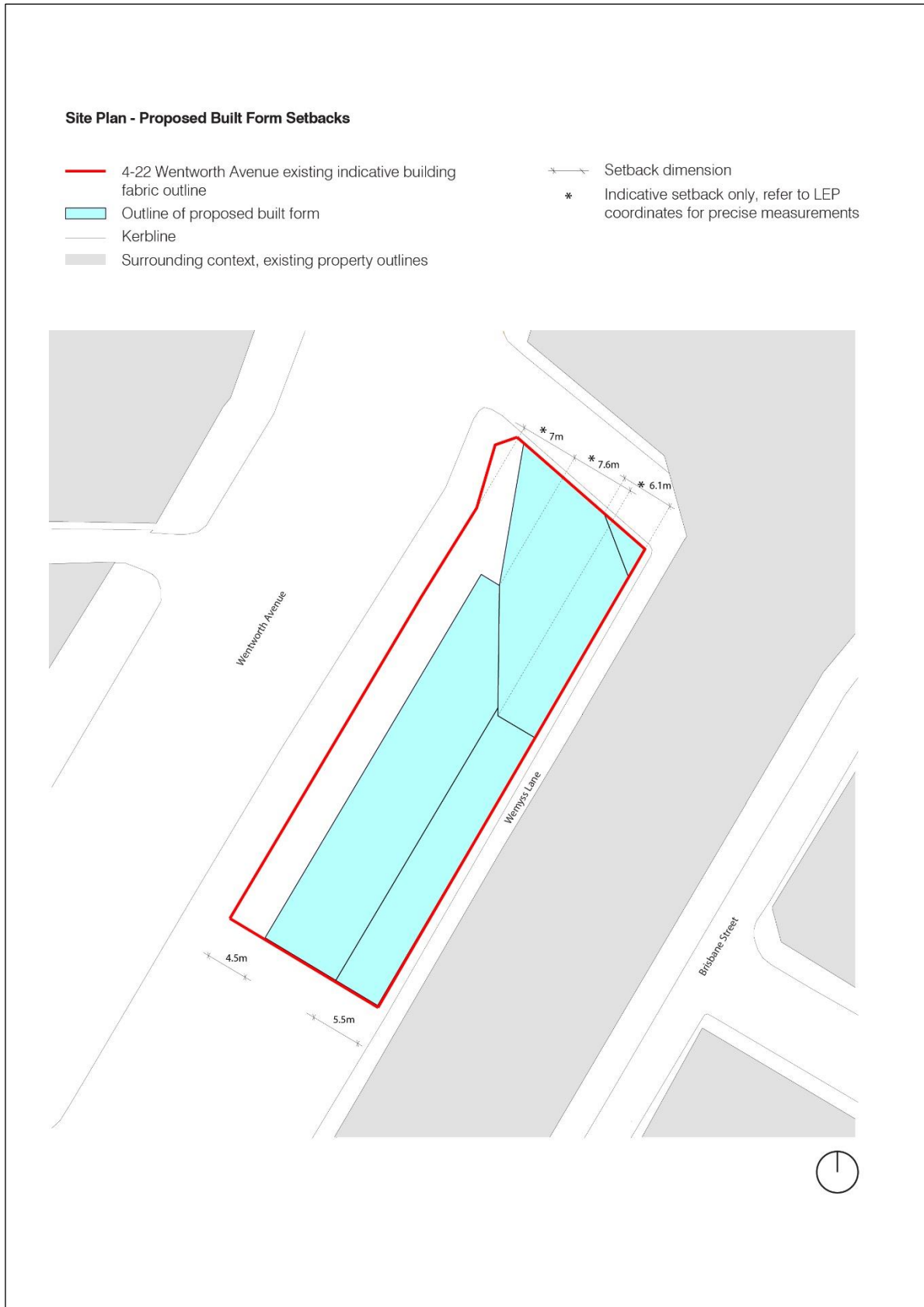


Figure 19: Reduced setbacks plan – subject to design excellence

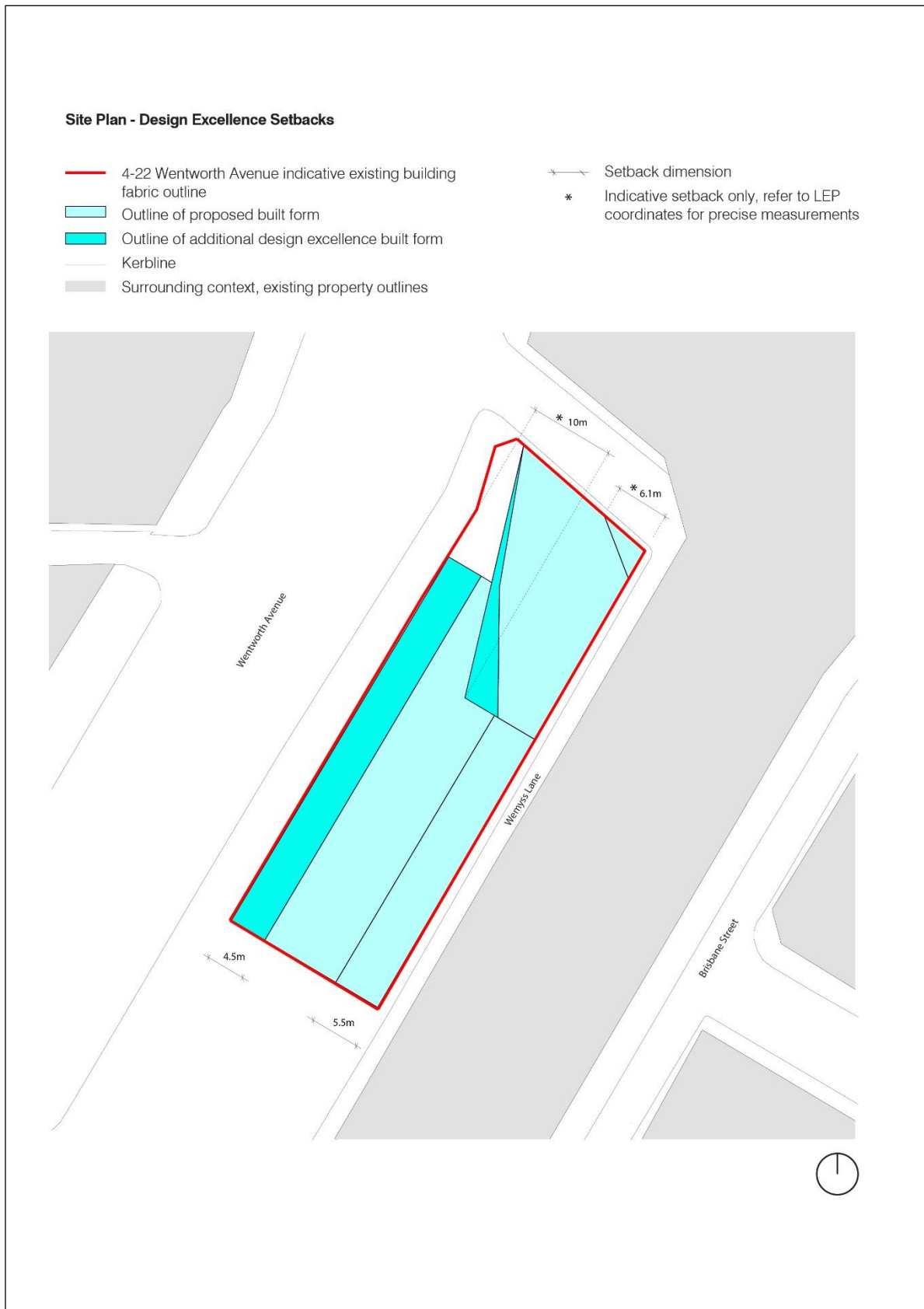


Figure 20: Proposed planning envelope – without design excellence (looking north-east)

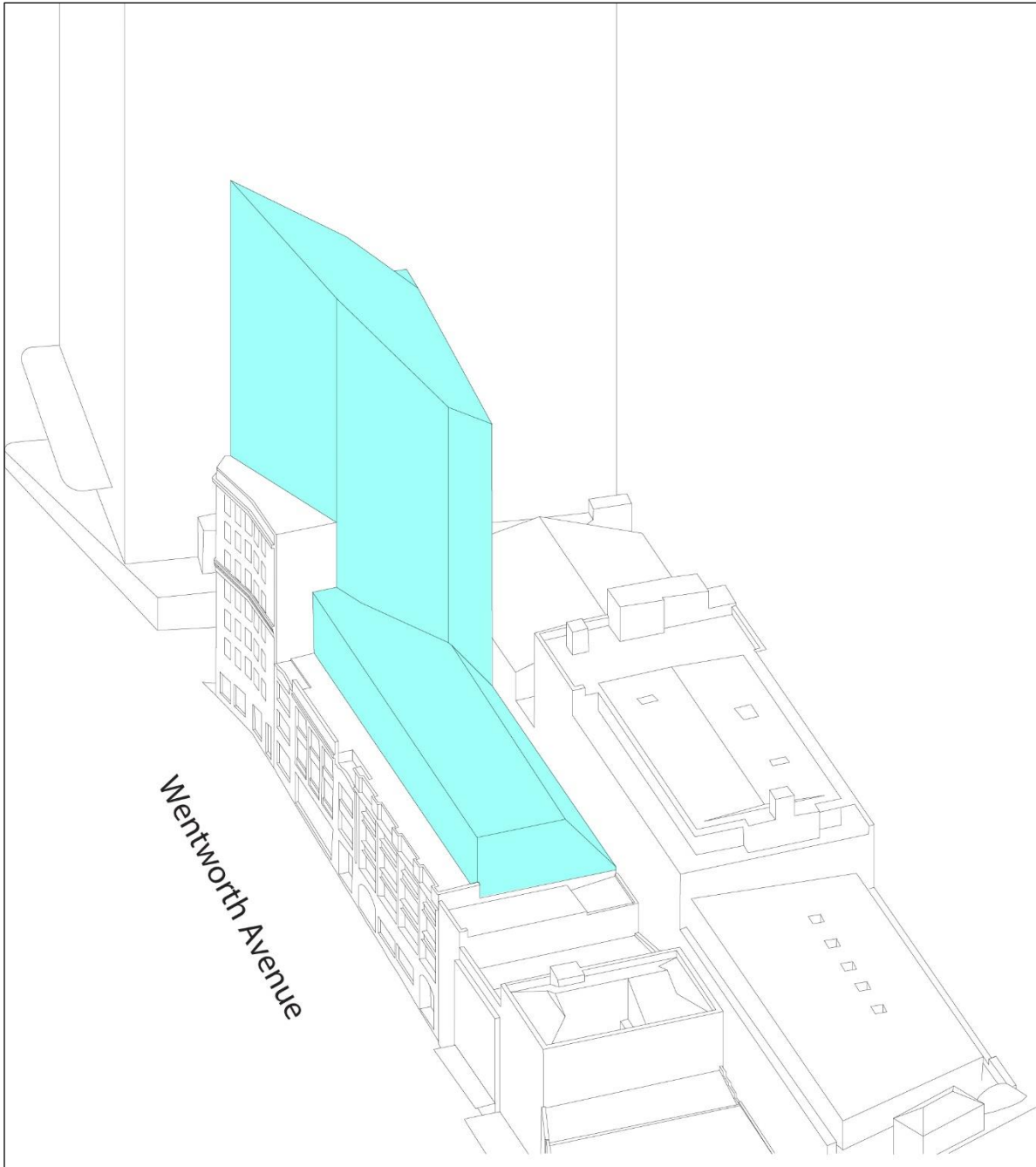


Figure 21: Proposed maximum planning envelope – with design excellence (looking north-east)

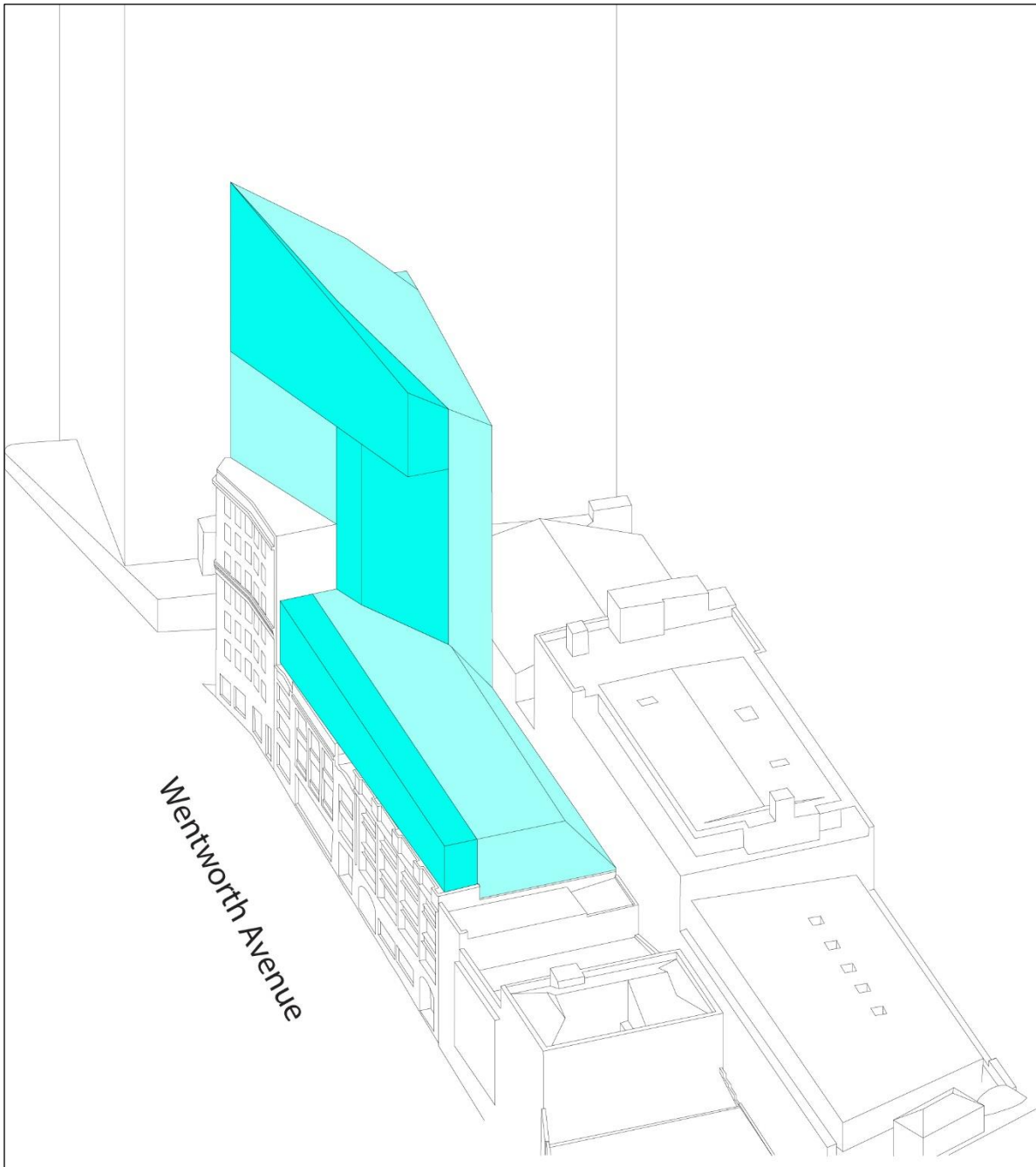


Figure 22: Proposed planning envelope – without design excellence (looking north-west)

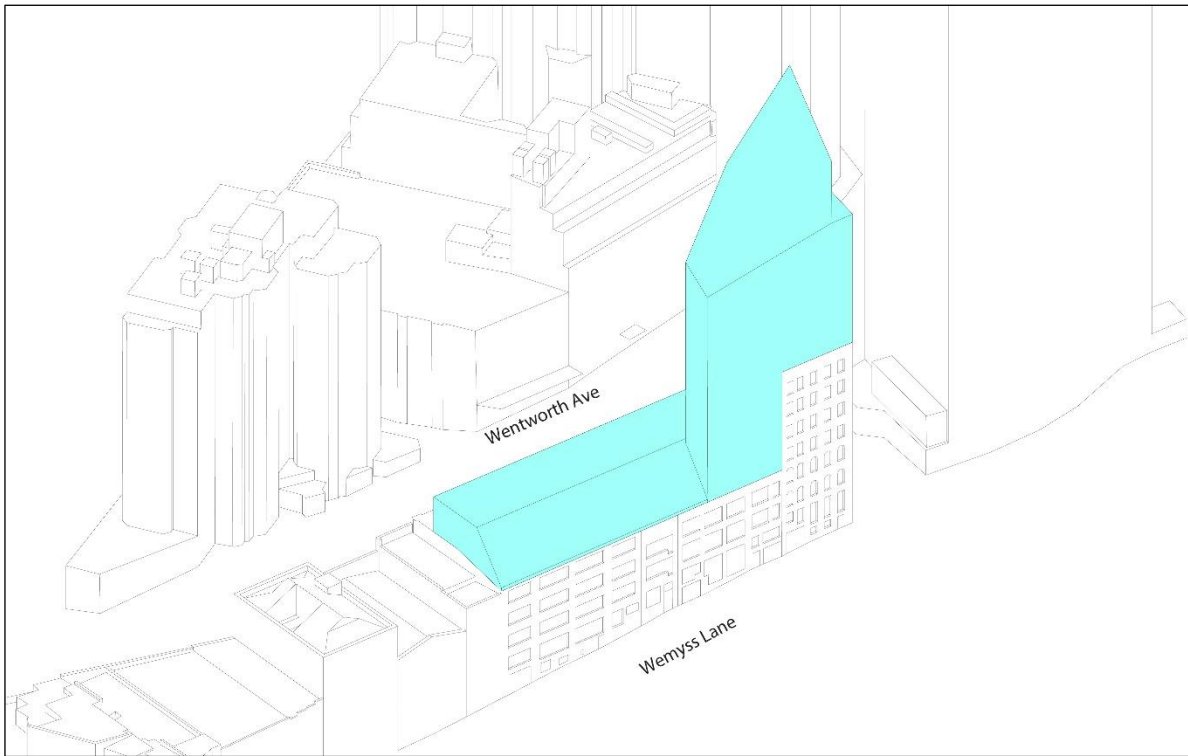


Figure 23: Proposed maximum planning envelope – with design excellence (looking north-west)

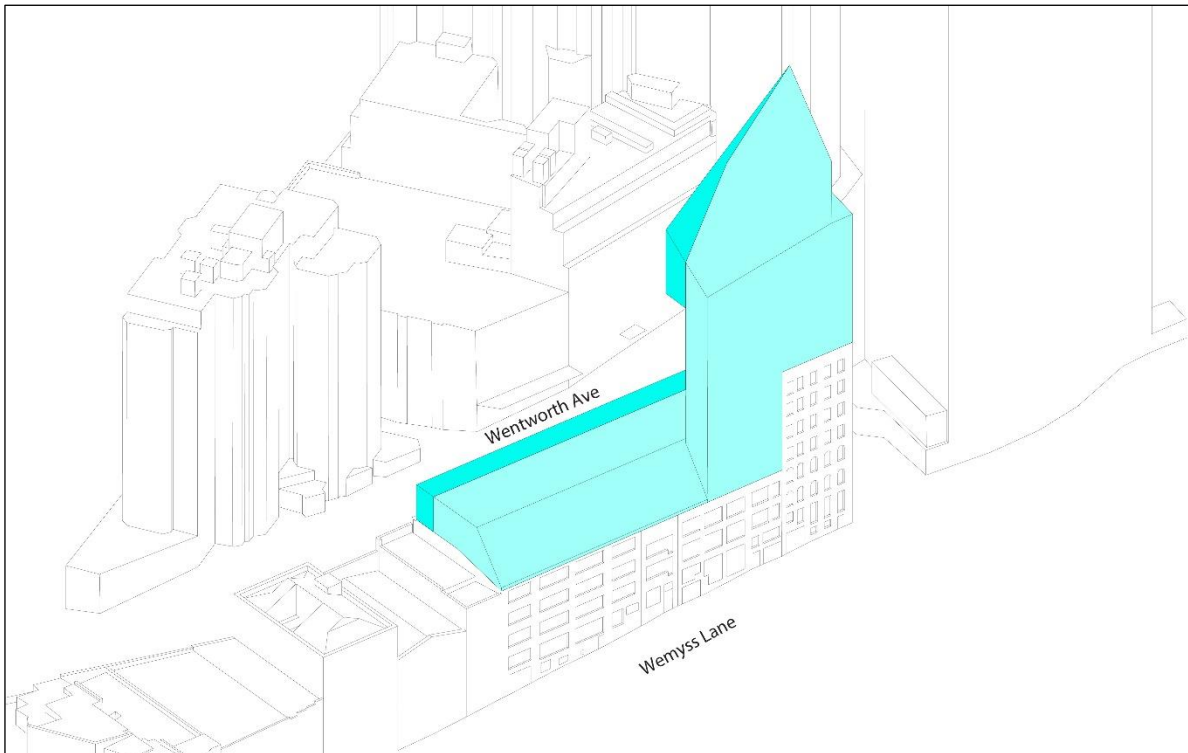


Figure 24: Proposed maximum planning envelope – with design excellence (view north-east)

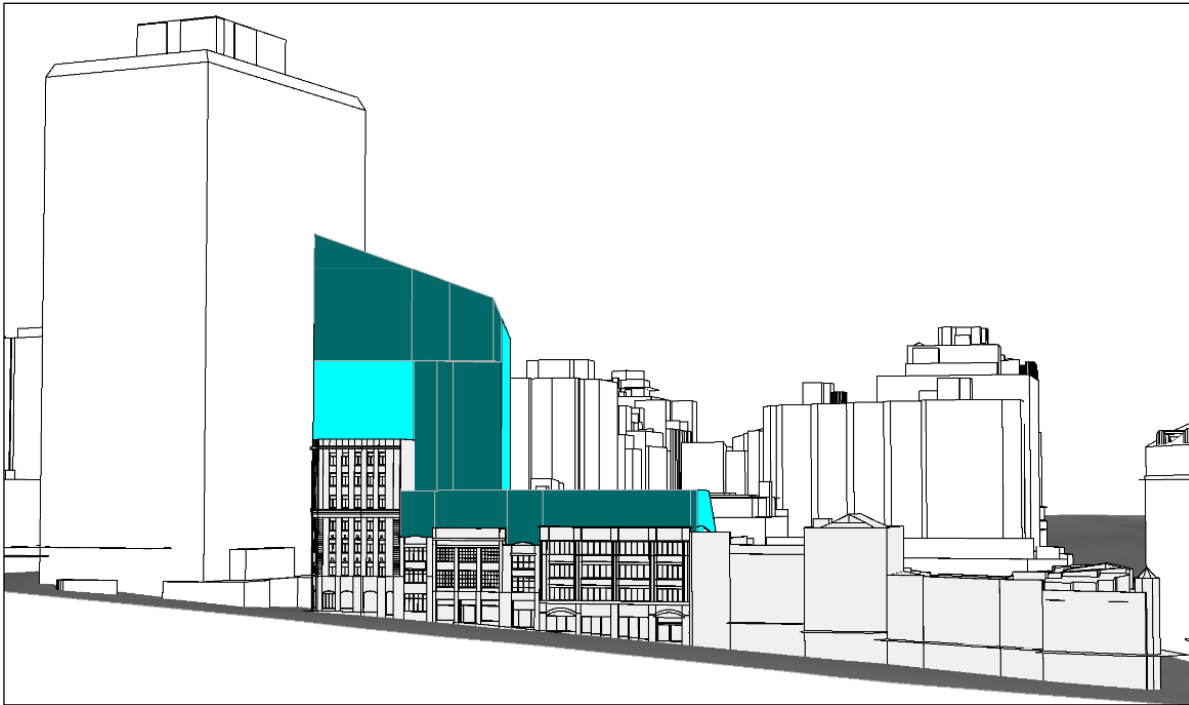


Figure 25: Proposed maximum planning envelope – with design excellence (view north)

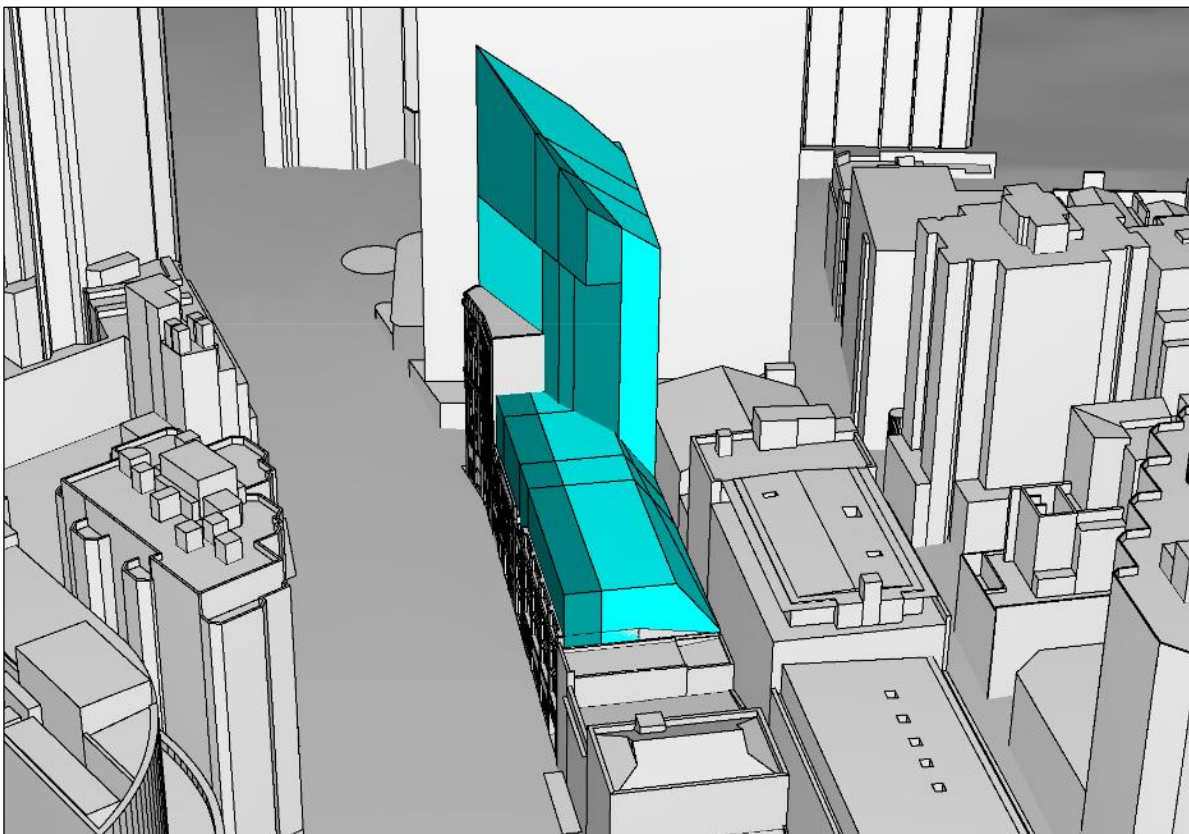


Figure 26: Proposed maximum planning envelope – with design excellence (view north-west)

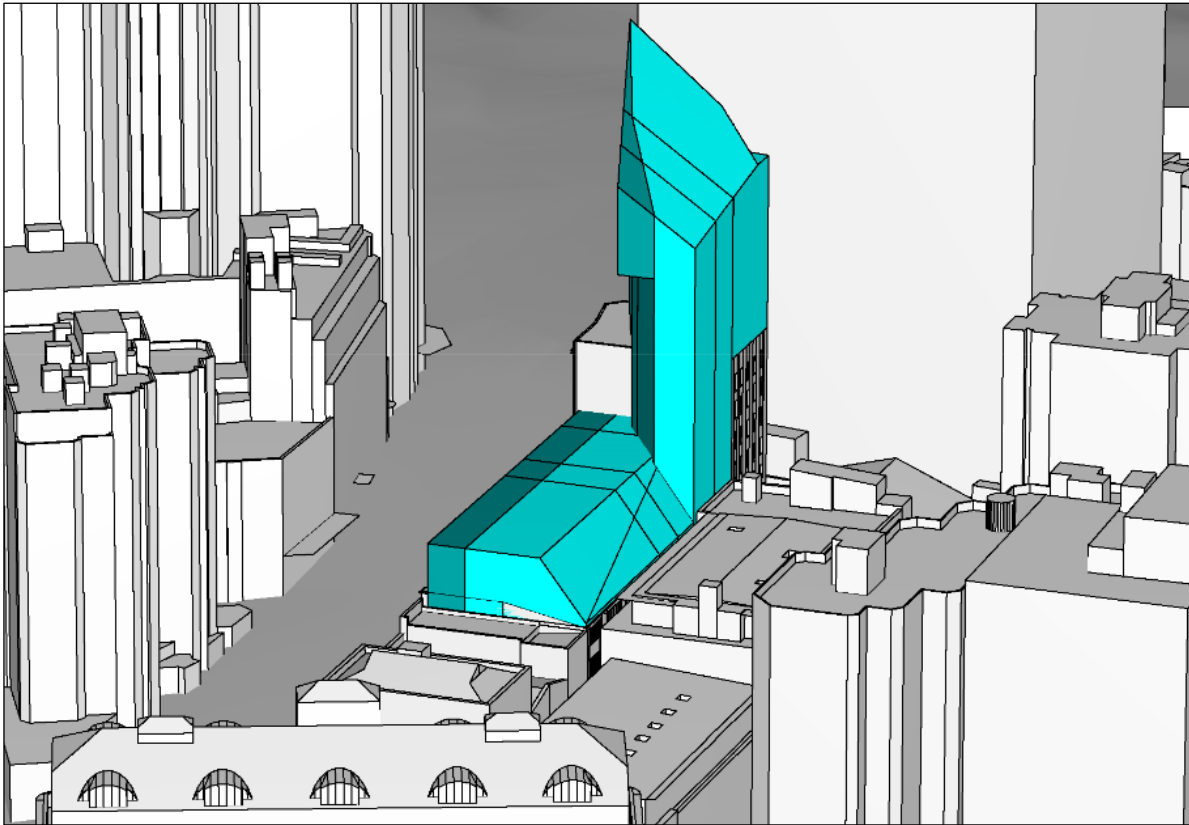
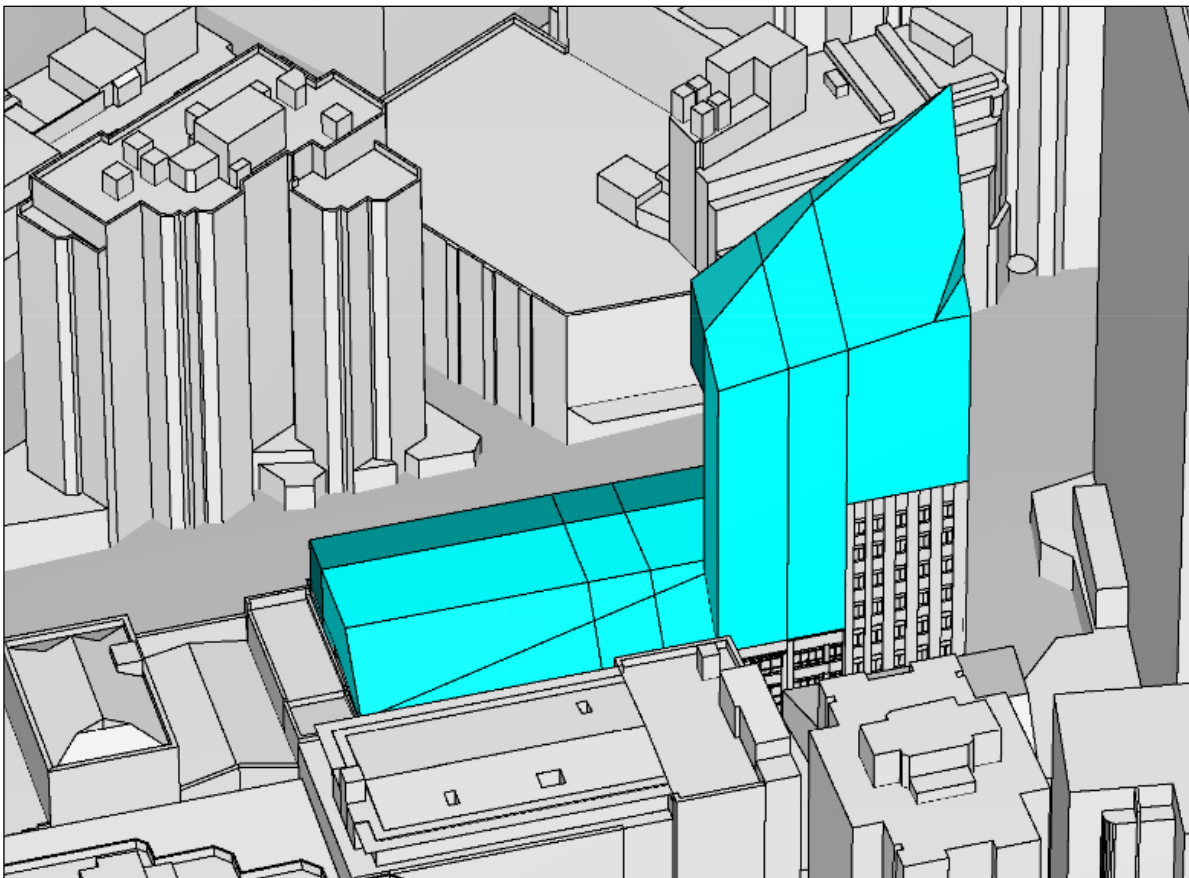
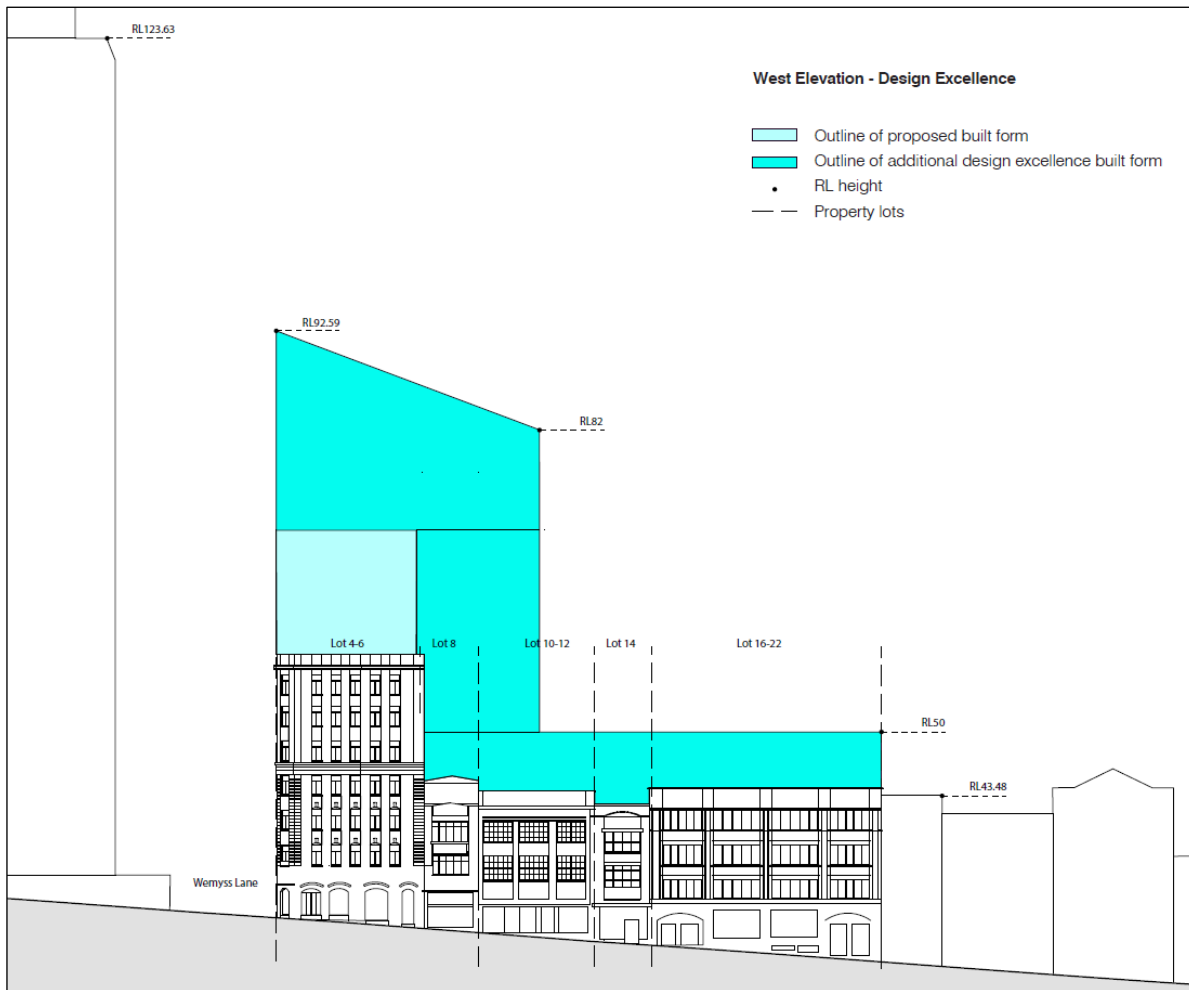


Figure 27: Proposed maximum planning envelope – with design excellence (view west)



The five existing warehouse buildings form the street wall height to Wentworth Avenue.

Figure 28: Street wall heights with design excellence



Clause 6.21(7) of the LEP permits developments that exhibit design excellence to be awarded an additional height or FSR bonus of up to 10%. The subject building envelope has been carefully considered and revised to ensure acceptable solar access impacts to nearby residential development. Additional height beyond that in this planning proposal to either the tower or podium will result in adverse overshadowing impacts to surrounding apartment buildings. As such, a clause has been inserted to the site specific provisions prohibiting additional height beyond that detailed in this planning proposal.

The FSR has been increased marginally across the site to a maximum of 5.7:1, to accommodate this expanded hotel use. The site is eligible for up to an additional 10% FSR, should a development proposal exhibit design excellence. This would take the site's FSR to a maximum of 6.3:1.

Ancillary uses operating as part of the hotel will be located on the ground floor of the development. Indicative uses include a coffee shop and restaurant.

5.2. Proposed changes to, benefits of, and management of increasing building height and floor space ratio controls

This Planning Proposal is to provide alternative maximum building height and maximum floor space ratio (FSR) controls to encourage hotel or motel accommodation in an acceptable built form.

Hotel use

Sydney's tourism industry makes a significant contribution to the local and state economy. During the 2017/18 financial year over 6 million international and domestic overnight visitors stayed in commercial accommodation located in the City of Sydney LGA. Analysis by the City of Sydney in 2013 found that a sustainable supply of visitor accommodation is needed to support projected tourism growth. The City's Sustainable Sydney 2030, Tourism Action Plan (2013) and Visitor Accommodation Action Plan (2015) aim to facilitate development of additional visitor accommodation. The Eastern City District Plan seeks to strengthen and grow a more competitive Harbour CBD through the growth of targeted industry sectors, including tourist and visitor accommodation. This planning proposal will provide for an expanded mid-range hotel use in a highly accessible and central location, contributing to the City's accommodation supply. The proposal to increase the maximum building height and FSR for hotel or motel accommodation use only will facilitate a new hotel development consistent with local and state strategic plans.

Height and FSR changes

This Planning Proposal seeks to increase height and FSR controls to facilitate hotel or motel accommodation at the subject site. Table 2 shows existing and proposed maximum building height controls across the site and the maximum height plane and relevant geographic coordinates.

Table 2: Existing and proposed maximum building height controls

Location (refer figure 30)	Coordinate	Existing control	Proposed control	
4-6 Wentworth Ave Lots 42 and 43	X=334635.65	22m	RL 92.59	
	Y=6249982.84	7 storeys	62.25m approx. 19 storeys	
8 Wentworth Ave Lot 44	X=334631.96	18m	RL 86.63	RL 50.00
	Y=6249967.04	3 storeys	57.21m (part) 17 storeys	20.58m (part) 6 storeys
10-12 Wentworth Ave Lots 45 and 46	X=334630.53	18m	RL 84.60	RL 50.00
	Y=6249960.91	3 storeys	55.60m (part) 17 storeys	21.00m (part) 6 storeys
14 Wentworth Ave Lot 47	X=334617.50	18m	RL 50.00	
	Y=6249954.32	3 storeys	21.86m 6 storeys	
16-22 Wentworth Ave Lots 48, 49, 50 51	X=334601.99	18m	RL 50.00	
	Y=6249928.24	4 storeys	24.13m 6 storeys	

The existing maximum FSR controls are 6:1 at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue, and 5:1 at 8, 10-12, 14 and 16-22 Wentworth Avenue, Surry Hills. The proposal seeks to increase this to 5.7:1 across the site with up to 6.3:1 if design excellence is awarded.

The current height controls across 4-22 Wentworth Avenue cannot accommodate the current permissible FSR. The planning proposal enables the existing permitted FSR to be achieved with a marginal further increase to facilitate a strategic hotel use. Table 3 below details the existing GFA on site, as well as the proposed increase.

Table 3: GFA change with and without design excellence

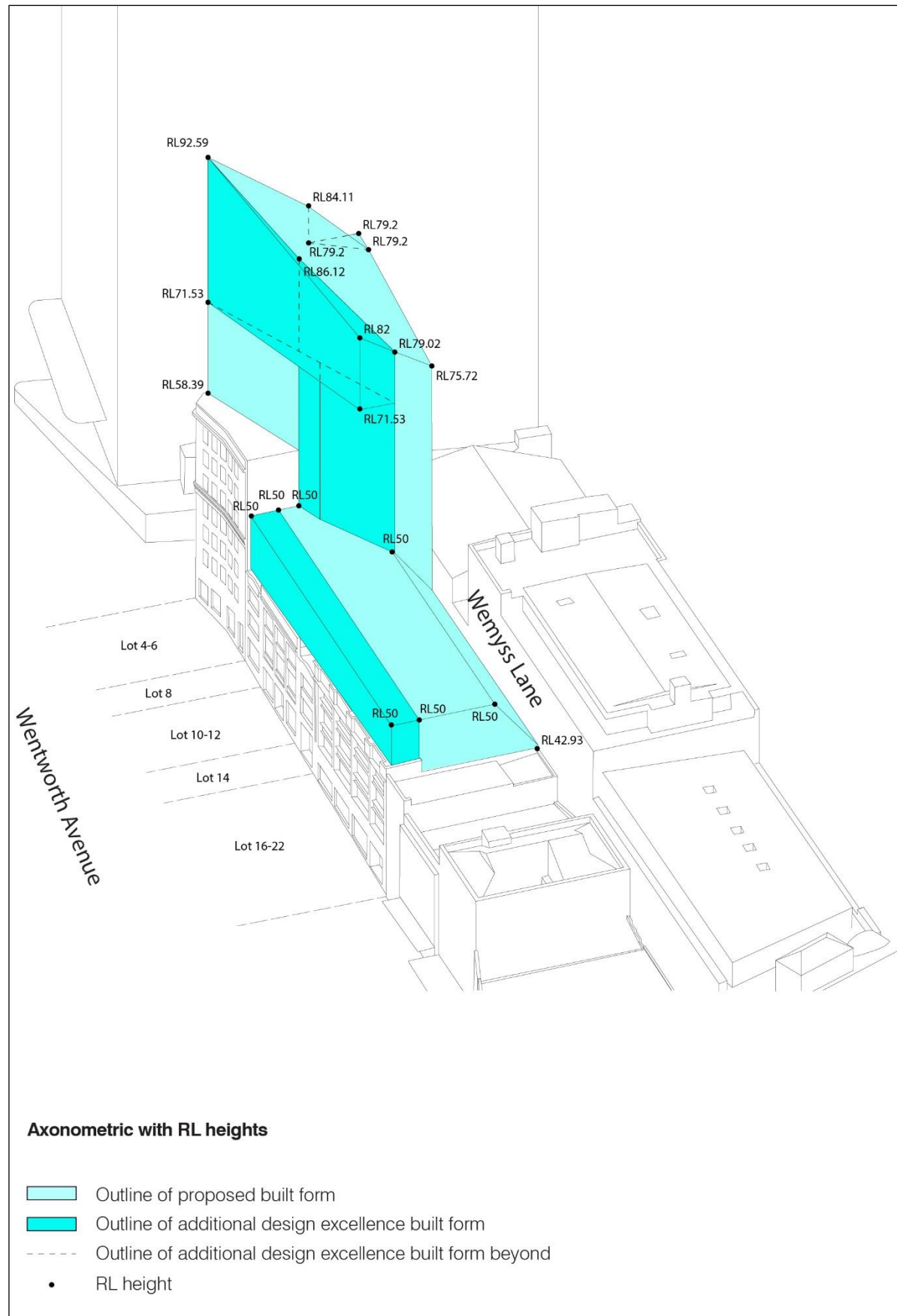
Site	Area	Control	GFA	Built GFA	Built FSR	Prop. FSR	Prop. GFA w/o DE	Prop GFA w/DE
4-6	272.6m ²	6:1	1,635.6m ²	1,719m ²	6:1		1,553.8m ²	1,717.4m ²
8	115.1m ²	5:1	575.5m ²	404m ²	3.5:1	w/o DE	656m ²	725.1m ²
10-12	238m ²	5:1	1,190m ²	730m ²	3.06:1	5.7:1	1,356.6m ²	1,499.4m ²
14	119.3m ²	5:1	596.5m ²	303m ²	2.53:1	w/DE	680m ²	751.6m ²
16-22	473.6m ²	5:1	2,368m ²	1,879m ²	3.96:1	6.3:1	2,699.5m ²	2,983.7m ²
Total	1,218.6m ²	5.22:1	6,365.6m ²	5,107m ²	4.2:1		6,946m ²	7,677.2m ²

The Planning Proposal request submitted by the proponent sought an FSR increase of 6.3:1 across the site, with a maximum possible FSR of 7:1 subject to additional floor space being awarded through the design excellence process.

GFA has been calculated and the FSR increase adjusted over the course of the assessment process. Calculations based on the proponent's indicative scheme indicated a base FSR of 6:1 with a maximum possible FSR of 6.6:1 with design excellence.

These figures have been adjusted to ensure that the relationship between the FSR and the proposed maximum envelope is less restrictive, consistent with advice provided by the Design Advisory Panel. This will allow for room for external shading, particularly given the subject site's long west-facing facade, as well as improved opportunities for more nuanced architectural articulation and expression through the design competition.

Figure 29: Maximum building height and plane of proposed tower and podium



Design excellence and competitive design process

This Planning Proposal to increase the maximum height limit to over 25m requires development of the site to be carried out through the City of Sydney's competitive design process. The site-specific DCP for this planning proposal include design excellence strategy provisions which stipulate the competitive design process must involve no less than four architectural firms ranging from emerging, emerged and established, with demonstrated experience designing high quality heritage infill buildings. Achieving design excellence is incentivised through the potential for an additional 10% FSR. This will ensure redevelopment of the site will be undertaken via a robust competitive process, which will result in a high quality building and design excellence outcome.

Heritage conservation

The subject site consists of five buildings that are part of a group listing of nine former commercial warehouse buildings from 4 to 34 Wentworth Avenue. Providing for the conservation of the buildings, including any internal heritage significant fabric, is a priority for this planning proposal and site-specific DCP.

The five warehouse buildings are heritage listed as part of a group. They represent physical evidence of the local council's early twentieth century street planning, slum clearances and land resumptions for improving Sydney city, as well as the growth of industry in Surry Hills in the early twentieth century, however are less valuable individually.

The proposal retains the significance of the group of period buildings through conserving external fabric such as significant facade detailing and timber joinery and fenestration, providing a suitable adaptive reuse for the warehouses and enhancing interiors – particularly at the ground floor of 10-22 Wentworth Avenue, where original timber structures which have been covered up will be re-exposed.

As part of preparations for the subject planning proposal, investigative work has been carried out by the proponent and their heritage consultants, including a site visit which City of Sydney heritage and planning staff attended. The site visit found that the buildings had a moderate to high degree of interior and exterior heritage significance, but that some buildings and elements had been significantly modified – most notably at Number 8 where internal structures had been entirely replaced. The ground floor facades of all the buildings have been considerably altered, and upper levels of the warehouses generally feature commercial fitouts.

The planning proposal includes an eight to 10 storey tower addition above number 4-6, which partly extends south over numbers 8-12, and a two storey podium addition above the lower scale warehouses at 8-22 Wentworth Avenue. Upper level additions to heritage significant buildings in Central Sydney are not uncommon and design excellent outcomes can be achieved through appropriate setbacks, material choices, architectural articulation, design of new building elements and suitable adaptive uses. Additions above buildings with heritage significant fabric which demonstrate good outcomes include Legion House at 161-163 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, 50-58 Kensington Street, Chippendale and the tri-generation plant at Brewery Yard, Central Park.

To achieve the allowable floor space and encourage design excellence and new hotel accommodation, the buildings have been assessed for suitable opportunities for intervention, where fabric is of lower significance. Number 4-6, at the northernmost corner, has a historic pattern of additions. The building was originally built in 1918, with another three levels added in 1925, featuring a simpler design to the original construction. The internal floors have also been fire separated, and any original fabric cannot be exposed. The proposal seeks to conserve the primary internal layouts, diving walls and stairs, with a 10 storey tower addition to be constructed above and supported by new concrete columns inserted within the existing structure. The tower is set back above the parapet to allow the legibility of the building and group to be retained.

Number 8 is a relatively simple warehouse building with lower significance, and is unlikely to have been heritage listed separately to the group. Its interiors have been heavily modified over time, with original floors having been replaced with concrete. The planning proposal presents an opportunity to undertake conservation works to the exterior, and to provide the building with an improved structure by replacing floor levels with new levels to match those at 4-6. Part of the proposed tower will be set back above number 8 by roughly 10m.

Number 10-12 is a largely intact building. Most changes have occurred at the ground floor, with new openings to the facade, and commercial fitouts to upper floors. Original timber beams and iron bark columns survive at the ground floor, with the structure concealed on upper levels. The planning proposal retains an appropriate setback to the two storey podium addition behind the prominent parapet, conserving the building's external significance. Provisions have been included in the DCP to ensure significant internal fabric is retained.

The ground floor facade of number 14 has been considerably altered, however internally, the building retains a number of original features. These include the load bearing external brick walls with blind arches, steel beams, timber joists and floors. The proposal seeks to retain the facade. Provisions have been included in the DCP to ensure significant internal fabric is retained.

Number 16-22 features a well-preserved facade, with less intervention than neighbouring warehouse buildings. Internally, the building retains original timber beams, columns, and connecting brackets, including timber floor boards on the first floor. The proposal seeks to conserve the existing facade, as well as the interior floor structure.

Provisions have been included in the DCP to ensure existing floors and floor levels are retained where possible, with particular regard to the lower scale warehouses at 10-22 Wentworth Avenue. Further heritage considerations include retaining the individuality and distinction of each building within the group heritage item, as well as impacts on neighbouring heritage listed warehouses to the site, which belong to the same listing as 4-22 Wentworth Avenue.

Upper level setbacks immediately above the 7 storey building at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue, the podium setback at 8-22 Wentworth Avenue and a street wall height control consistent with the height of the existing building facades will allow the heritage listed buildings to maintain their legibility and prominence in the streetscape.

A control allowing the podium addition setback to be reduced to zero has been inserted subject to the proposed building design achieving design excellence through a design competition. Whilst setbacks are often employed in the treatment of additions above heritage items, zero setbacks to heritage buildings can provide a contemporary design opportunity to reference the proportion, detailing and articulation of the existing fabric. A zero podium setback to Wentworth Avenue is appropriate where design excellence is achieved and acknowledges the fine grain of the streetscape and achieves a harmonious bulk and form relationship with the host building.

Conservation and restoration of the buildings' facades and significant interiors will enhance the significance of the group. The site-specific DCP includes extensive provisions to maintain and conserve the structural and architectural integrity of the heritage item and guide compatible new works above the buildings, and to their interiors. The DCP provisions clarify the intended outcomes of this planning proposal, giving direction for the detailed design to be resolved at subsequent stages through the design and development process.

With these measures in place, it is considered that the changes to the development standards will allow for a positive development outcome for the heritage item, including its interiors and setting.

Built form

The site is in a prominent corner location, occupying half a street block. The buildings on site are visible from the intersection of Wentworth Avenue and Liverpool Street. The key urban design issue is the visual impact of the bulk and scale of the increased height, and the southern side wall presentation to surrounding streetscapes.

The majority of the additional bulk and scale envisioned as part of this planning proposal is located at the northern end of the site, above 4-6 and 8 Wentworth Avenue, where a 90m, 24-storey building is situated immediately to the north across Wemyss Lane.

The proposed tower has a maximum height of around 62m. This has been generated through the creation of a solar access plane to ensure the proposal is capable of complying with overshadowing requirements for neighbouring residential apartments. Any building proposed will be required to be accommodated within the proposed building envelope.

The proposed building envelope steps down across the sloping site and provides an appropriate response to the existing surrounding mid-scale buildings of three to four storeys to the east and south of the site. The podium addition of two storeys, with its minimum setback of 4.5m will maintain the legibility and prominence of the lower-scale heritage warehouses at 8-22 Wentworth Avenue, and ensures the buildings adjacent to the south are not dominated by the addition, or detracted from.

A clause has been inserted into the design excellence strategy which permits the setback of the podium addition to be reduced to zero, subject to development exhibiting design excellence. This requires the rooftop podium addition to be designed to be minimal, lightweight and recessive. In this regard, it is noted that the subject site is located on a narrow and constrained block, with a depth of approximately 20m. At around 30m, Wentworth Avenue is one of the CBD's wider streets. The considerable width of Wentworth Avenue, paired with the shallow depth of the site generally preclude development above the parapet line from being completely invisible when viewed from the public domain.

The proposal responds to the heights of buildings in the area which being on the edge of Central Sydney is a mix of very tall towers and medium rise buildings. The tallest part of the proposal is up to 17 storeys which is consistent with other buildings nearby including 1 Oxford Street (24 storeys), 185 Liverpool Street (31 storeys), 2-4 Poplar Street (15 storeys), 156-160 Goulburn Street (13 storeys), 17-25 Wentworth Avenue (15 storeys) and 27-33 Wentworth Avenue (17 storeys). The proposal transitions from the neighbouring building at 1 Oxford Street down to the rooftop podium addition above 8-22 Wentworth Avenue, where the maximum height will be around 23m or 6 storeys. The envelope steps down across the site and provides an appropriate response to the existing surrounding mid-scale buildings to the east and south of the site.

As existing development in the surrounding area is densely developed, the subject building envelope has been carefully considered to ensure acceptable solar access impacts to nearby residential development. Additional height beyond that proposed in the City's concept plan, to either the tower or podium component of the proposal, will result in adverse overshadowing impacts to surrounding apartment buildings. Therefore, a clause has been inserted to the site specific provisions prohibiting additional height beyond that detailed in this planning proposal.

The Draft DCP that accompanies this planning proposal includes site-specific provisions relating to the building envelope, setbacks, heritage conservation and the design excellence process which will guide the detailed design of the proposal at later stages.

Solar access and overshadowing

The subject site is located in a densely developed pocket of the city fringe, with several residential apartment buildings and mixed use developments in its vicinity.

The submitted shadow diagrams show that the proposed building envelope will cause minor additional overshadowing to two residential apartment buildings located to the east of the site. The proposal has been extensively reviewed and revised considerably to ensure the additional overshadowing complies with the criteria of the Apartment Design Guide.

The solar access requirements of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's 'Apartment Design Guide' (ADG) have been used as the benchmark for maintaining adequate levels of solar access to surrounding residential properties. Although it is less onerous than the current DCP controls, the ADG is considered appropriate for the site and the precinct given the context within a dense and highly urbanised precinct, that residential units in the area have generally not been built to current overshadowing requirements, the site is adjacent to Central Sydney, there is a need to prioritise strategically productive land uses in this precinct and changes in height are needed to unlock the existing permitted floor space. Key solar access requirements of the ADG are summarised below:

- Objective 4A-1 requires that at least 70% of apartments in a building receive at least 2 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm at mid-winter in the Sydney metropolitan area. This is counted as 1sqm of direct sunlight, measured at 1m above floor level, for at least 15 minutes.
- Objective 3B-2 requires that if an adjoining property does not currently receive the required hours of access, the new development must ensure solar access to neighbouring properties is not reduced by more than 20% (in terms of length of time).

In comparison, Clause 4.1.3.1(2) of the Sydney DCP 2012 specifies that new development must not create any additional overshadowing to the private open space and living rooms of residential development where solar access is less than two hours between 9am and 3pm on 21 June.

The proposed building envelope ensures acceptable solar access to neighbouring properties based on the requirements of the ADG. See maximum building envelope at Figure 22.

Two nearby residential apartment buildings are affected by the subject planning proposal: the Belvedere apartments (156-160 Goulburn Street) and the Meta apartments (148 Goulburn Street). Solar access impacts of the proposed maximum building envelope to the western elevation of both buildings are shown in section 5 of Lippman Partnership's urban design report, at Appendix A1. The modelling indicates that for both buildings, less than 70% of apartments currently receive at least 2 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm at mid-winter. Therefore, objective 3B-2 of the ADG, which requires the proposed development to ensure that where a neighbouring property does not currently receive the required hours of solar access, its solar access is not reduced by more than 20%, applies to the subject proposal.

The submitted diagrams indicate five apartments at the Belvedere will lose between 1 minute and 7 minutes of sunlight to habitable spaces at mid-winter, and that seven apartments at Meta will lose between 3 minutes and 9 minutes. These figures represent between 2% and 19% of the total duration of sunlight received. See Figure 30 and Table 4 for Meta, and Figure 31 and Table 5 for the Belvedere.

The remaining apartments in both buildings either receive less than 15 minutes of sun (classified as 'no direct sun' under the ADG), between 15 minutes and 2 hours and are unaffected by this proposal, or over 2 hours.

Figure 30: Western elevation of Meta and affected apartments

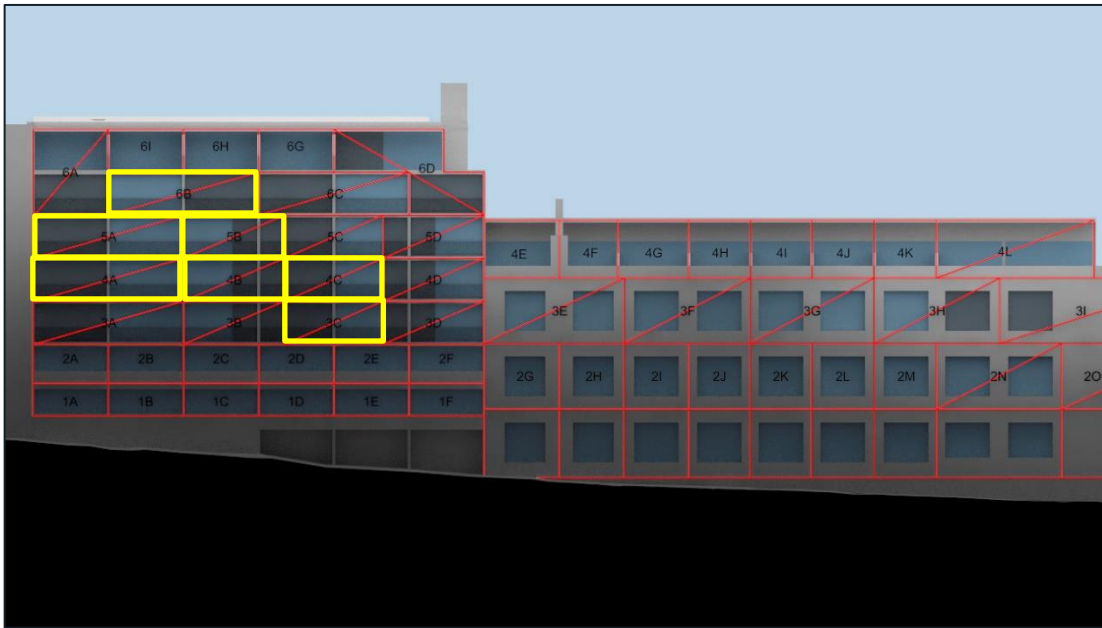


Table 4: Reduction in solar access to Meta

Apt No.	Current sun		Total	Proposed sun		Total	-mins	-%
	Starts	Finishes		Starts	Finishes			
3C	11.12am	11.35am	23"	11.15am	11.35am	20"	3"	13%
4A	11.26am	12.15pm	49"	11.29am	12.10pm	41"	8"	16%
4B	11.22am	12.09pm	47"	11.28am	12.08pm	40"	7"	15%
4C	11.12am	11.59am	47"	11.21am	11.56am	38"	9"	19%
5A	11.26am	12.15pm	49"	11.34am	12.15pm	41"	8"	16%
5B	11.22am	12.09pm	47"	11.29am	12.09pm	40"	7"	15%
6B	11.26am	12.15pm	49"	11.35am	12.15pm	40"	9"	18%

Figure 31: Western elevation of the Belvedere and affected apartments



Table 5: Reduction in solar access to the Belvedere

Apt No.	Current sun		Total	Proposed sun		Total	Mins	-%
	Starts	Finishes		Starts	Finishes			
6B	12.34pm	1.02pm	28"	12.34pm	12.57pm	23"	5"	18%
6C	12.20pm	12.57pm	37"	12.20pm	12.50pm	30"	7"	19%
6D	12.07pm	12.46pm	39"	12.07pm	12.40pm	33"	6"	15%
7B	12.34pm	1.08pm	47"	12.34pm	1.07pm	33"	1"	3%
7D	12.07pm	12.50pm	43"	12.07pm	12.49pm	42"	1"	2%

The proposal has been extensively assessed and revised to ensure the maximum building envelope minimises overshadowing to neighbouring properties. Specifically, the envelope ensures that, in accordance with Objective 3B-2 of the ADG, neighbouring properties that do not currently receive the required hours of solar access do not have their solar access reduced by more than 20%. The impact of the proposed maximum building envelope on surrounding properties' solar access is therefore considered to be within acceptable limits and the Department of Planning and Environment's standards for residential development.

Sustainability

Target benchmarks for sustainability of the hotel development are established in the DCP. These include achieving certification for a 5-star Green Star for the design, and 4.5-stars NABERS energy accreditation after construction.

The site-specific DCP includes provisions for the development to specify design measures and targets for energy, water and waste. Combined with the positive sustainability benefit from reusing the existing buildings 4-22 Wentworth Avenue, these are considered reasonable sustainability standards.

5.3. Draft development control plan

This Planning Proposal is to amend the LEP to increase the maximum building height control and FSR control to encourage the provision of hotel or motel accommodation. Site-specific controls have also been included in the draft DCP to help guide the design for the site. These controls address built form, heritage conservation, site servicing, sustainability and a design excellence strategy. These controls will help to ensure the benefits of the increased maximum building height and FSR are realised and impacts are appropriately managed.

5.4. Need for the planning proposal

Q1. Is the Planning Proposal the result of any strategic study or report?

When Sydney LEP 2012 was adopted, Council and the Central Sydney Planning Committee noted that consideration was being given to a planning proposal for the site as a change in height and FSR had possible merit. This Planning Proposal also delivers on the City's Visitor Accommodation Action Plan (2015). The proposed increased building height and increased floor space ratio will encourage development of the site for a hotel or motel use only, which is consistent with the objectives of the City's Visitor Accommodation Action Plan (2015).

The proposed increase to both the maximum building height and maximum floor space ratio will ensure resultant development creates an effective building envelope for the proposed hotel use, with most additional height located at the northern end of the site, close to the 24 storey Memocorp building across Wemyss Lane. The proposal steps down considerably at the southern portion of the site, from around 58m to 25m, producing a building envelope that transitions and responds appropriately to neighbouring 3 to 5 storey warehouse buildings as well as nearby residential development. The building envelope has been specifically designed to ensure adequate solar access is maintained to residential properties.

The proposal also allows for an appropriate setback above the existing heritage listed commercial warehouse on the corner, at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue. A 4.5m setback is required for the podium addition, which can be reduced to a zero setback where a scheme is considered to achieve design excellence.

The proposal delivers improved streetscape amenity and activation at ground floor frontages. Proposed changes to the maximum building height and floor space ratio controls result in a building envelope that is sensitive to existing heritage buildings on site and adjacent to the site, as well as surrounding residential uses.

The proposed land use is consistent with strategic outcomes envisioned in the Visitor and Accommodation Action Plan 2015 which aims to encourage and facilitate more mid-range hotel development across the Local Government Area, particularly in and around the Sydney CBD.

Q2. Is the Planning Proposal the best means of achieving the objectives or intended outcomes, or is there a better way?

The objectives for the site are to encourage the provision of a new hotel or motel development to support Sydney's tourism sector, improve the diversity and increase the quantity of tourist and visitor accommodation in the LGA, achieve design excellence, improve the site's amenity and contribution to the surrounding area, respond appropriately to the built form context, conserve and enhance heritage significant fabric on site, and ensure the development limits impacts on neighbouring properties.

The current controls permit a building height to 22m and a FSR of 6:1 at 4-6 Wentworth Avenue, and up to 18m and 5:1 at 8, 10-12, 14, and 16-22 Wentworth Avenue.

As the site is located on the fringe of the CBD, is close to public transport and features an existing, operating hotel, it is appropriate to facilitate an expanded hotel development on this site. Changing the height control to redistribute the permitted floor space plus marginally increasing the FSR control for a hotel or motel accommodation use will result in better aligned development standards that can facilitate a use that is in high demand, contributing to the local and state economy.

Varying the existing maximum building height control or maximum FSR control through a development application is not an appropriate way to achieve the objectives. Under Clause 4.6 of the LEP, development consent may be granted for development which exceeds the height and/or FSR as set out in the relevant maps. However, the height and FSR of the proposed scheme are substantially greater than the existing controls. Approval of a development application that substantially exceeds the height control would set an undesirable precedent, undermine the LEP height and FSR controls and prevent broader strategic considerations of allowing additional height at the site.

5.5. Relationship to strategic planning framework

Q3. Is the Planning Proposal consistent with the objectives and actions of the applicable regional or sub-regional strategy (including the Sydney Metropolitan Strategy and the exhibited draft strategies)?

A Metropolis of Three Cities – the Greater Sydney Regional Plan

A Metropolis for Three Cities – the Greater Sydney Regional Plan is the NSW State Government's overarching strategic plan that outlines a 40-year vision and sets out a 20-year plan to manage growth and change for Sydney. It identifies key challenges facing Sydney including a population increase of 1.7 million, and a requirement for 725,000 new homes by 2036. The Plan also refers to a whole-of-government agenda to create 1 million new jobs in NSW by 2036.

In responding to these and other challenges, the plan sets out four categories and 10 directions, with associated objectives. These are:

1. Infrastructure and collaboration: a city supported by infrastructure, and a collaborative city;
2. Liveability: a city for people, housing the city and a city of great places;
3. Productivity: a well-connected city and jobs and skills for the city; and
4. Sustainability: a city in its landscape, an efficient city and a resilient city.

Strategies of particular relevance to this Planning Proposal include:

- 13.1 – identify, conserve and enhance environmental heritage;
- 22.1 – provide access to jobs, goods and services in centres;
- 24.2 – consider encouraging the development of a range of well-designed and located tourism and visitation facilities and developing industry skills critical to growing the visitor economy; and
- 33.1 – support initiatives that contribute to the aspirational objective of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

The Planning Proposal is consistent with several relevant directions, objectives and strategies of the plan. Specifically it will:

- Revitalise a site with heritage-listed buildings;

- Promote urban renewal of a site which is well situated close to public transport; and
- Provide supply of new tourist and visitor accommodation which will result in additional employment opportunities (from 62 to 118 jobs), as well as increasing Sydney's accommodation stock.

Eastern City District Plan

The Eastern City District Plan sets out the NSW Government's vision, priorities and actions for the Eastern District, including the City of Sydney. It establishes a 20 year vision for the Eastern District to be a global sustainability leader, managing growth while maintaining and enhancing liveability, productivity and attractiveness for residents and visitors. Priorities and associated actions for productivity, liveability and sustainability seek to deliver this vision.

This Planning Proposal is consistent with the following priorities from the Plan:

- [Productivity Priority E7: Growing a stronger and more competitive Harbour CBD: and Productivity Priority E13: Supporting growth of targeted industry sectors](#) – The site is within the Harbour CBD, one of the Sydney Region's three metropolitan centres and on the boundary of Central Sydney. The District Plan recognises the importance of tourism in the Harbour CBD. This Planning Proposal will support and contribute to the visitor economy by facilitating the redevelopment of the site for a hotel use in the under-supplied mid-range market. Its location on the CBD fringe and in walking distance of the City of Sydney villages of Darlinghurst and Surry Hills will support to the use of public transport. The retention and conservation of the heritage listed commercial warehouse buildings adds to the visitor experience of the hotel and Surry Hills.
- [Sustainability Priority E19: Reducing carbon emissions and managing energy, water and waste efficiently](#) – This Planning Proposal and site-specific draft DCP will ensure sustainability benchmarks for hotel or motel accommodation use are achieved.

Q4. Is the Planning Proposal consistent with a council's local strategy or other local strategic plan?

Sustainable Sydney 2030 is Council's vision for the sustainable development of the City to 2030 and beyond. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the City and 10 targets against which to measure progress. This Planning Proposal is aligned with the following relevant strategic directions and objectives:

- [Direction 1 – A globally competitive and innovative city](#) – The planning proposal is consistent with the City's adopted Tourism Action Plan (2013) and Visitor Accommodation Action Plan (2015). This planning proposal will facilitate redevelopment of the site for a future hotel, delivering needed mid-range visitor accommodation and supporting Sydney's tourism economy. It will also offer employment opportunities. This investment in the site will contribute to making Sydney attractive to global visitors and investors.
- [Direction 2 provides a road map for the City to become a Leading Environmental performer](#) – Redevelopment of the site, facilitated by this Planning Proposal and through the design excellence process, will deliver new building stock with significantly better environmental performance than the current development through extensive sustainability provisions detailed in the attached DCP.
- [Direction 3 – Integrated transport for a connected City](#) – The site is close to bus services providing connections to Central Sydney and other areas in the Sydney metropolitan area. It is also close to the future South East Light Rail Line, expected to be completed in 2019. A new light rail stop will be located about 500 metres to the north of the site. This new light rail line will connect Circular Quay to Randwick and Kingsford.

Q5. Is the Planning Proposal consistent with applicable State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs)?

The Planning Proposal is consistent with applicable State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) as outlined in Table 6. SEPPs not mentioned are not applicable to the subject proposal.

Table 6: Consistency with SEPPs

SEPP	Comment
SEPP No 55 – Remediation of Land	Consistent. There is no proposed change to the zoning. This Planning Proposal does not contradict or hinder application of this SEPP.
SEPP (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008	Consistent. This Planning Proposal does not contradict or hinder application of this SEPP.
SEPP (Miscellaneous Consent Provisions) 2007	Consistent. This Planning Proposal does not contradict or hinder application of this SEPP.

No Regional Environmental Plans (REPs) for the Sydney and Greater Metropolitan regions, which are deemed SEPPs, apply to the subject Planning Proposal.

Q6. Is the Planning Proposal consistent with applicable section 117 Ministerial directions?

The Planning Proposal's consistency with applicable section 117 Ministerial directions is outlined in Table 7. Directions which are not applicable are not included.

Table 7: Consistency with Ministerial directions

No.	Direction	Comment
1. Employment and Resources		
1.1	Business and Industrial zones	Consistent. The subject site is zoned B4 Mixed Use under the LEP. The zone permits commercial, retail and residential uses with development consent. This planning proposal does not propose to change the site's existing zoning. The planning proposal is consistent with the objectives and requirements of this direction as the proposed development concept will increase the provision of an expanded commercial use, enhance the vitality of the area and provide an increased amount of employment opportunities in the community. The new development is centrally located and will maximise use of sustainable transport measures.
2. Environment and Heritage		
2.3	Heritage conservation	Consistent. This planning proposal provides for the conservation and re-use of the heritage listed warehouse buildings on site.
3. Housing Infrastructure and Urban Development		
3.4	Integrating land use and transport	Consistent. The objective of this direction is to ensure building forms, land use locations, development designs, subdivision and street layouts improve access to housing, jobs and services by reducing the dependence on cars. The subject site is centrally located, and the proposed hotel development will encourage the use of public transport including the existing bus and train

No.	Direction	Comment
		services by visitors and workers. This planning proposal is consistent with the aims, objectives and principle of <i>Improving Transport Choice – Guidelines for planning and development (DUAP 2001)</i> , and <i>The Right Place for Business and Services – Planning Policy (DUAP 2001)</i> .
4. Hazard and Risk		
4.1	Acid sulphate soils	Consistent. This planning proposal does not contradict or hinder application of acid sulphate soils provisions in the Sydney LEP 2012.
5. Regional Planning		
5.10	Implementation of regional plans	Consistent. This direction requires planning proposals to give effect to the vision, land use strategy, goals, directions and actions contained in Regional Plans. This planning proposal supports the implementation of the Eastern City District Plan as discussed in section 5.6 of this Planning Proposal.
6. Local Plan Making		
6.1	Approval and referral requirements	Consistent. This direction ensures that LEP provisions encourage the efficient and appropriate assessment of development. This planning proposal does not include any concurrence, consultation or referral provisions. Additionally, it does not identify any development as designated development.
6.3	Site-specific provisions	<p>Division 5 of the LEP contains site-specific provisions for various sites across the City. This planning proposal involves introducing site-specific controls into the LEP to ensure that increases to the height and FSR controls for the site are permissible for hotel or motel accommodation only.</p> <p>The site-specific provisions will specify that additional floor space but not height can be achieved through design excellence under clause 6.21 of the LEP. Controls will also be prepared to ensure no additional height can be pursued through a Clause 4.6 variation under the LEP. These site-specific provisions ensure the proposed development does not result in adverse amenity impacts to surrounding properties.</p>
7. Metropolitan Planning		
7.1	Implementation of A Plan for Growing Sydney	Consistent. The aim of this direction is to give legal effect to the principles, directions and priorities contained in A Planning for Growing Sydney, which has been replaced by the Greater Sydney Region Plan – a Metropolis of Three Cities. Section 5.5 of this Planning Proposal discusses how the proposal is consistent with a Metropolis of Three Cities.

5.6. Environmental, social and economic impact

Q7. Is there any likelihood that critical habitat or threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats, will be adversely affected as a result of the Planning Proposal?

The subject site is located in an urbanised area and does not contain any known critical habitat or threatened species, populations, ecological communities or habitats.

As part of any future redevelopment of the site resulting from this Planning Proposal, the City will consider environmental impacts that may be generated by the development.

Q8. Are there any other likely environmental effects as a result of the Planning Proposal and how are they proposed to be managed?

This Planning Proposal is to amend the maximum building height control and maximum floor space ratio control applicable to the site under the LEP to incentivise the development of hotel or motel accommodation only, in a manner that ensures the heritage item on site is appropriately retained and conserved, and mitigates other impacts.

Further proposed provisions in the site-specific DCP establish sufficient measures to ensure the new building envelope will provide for appropriate heritage, urban design and public domain outcomes when the detailed design is resolved at subsequent design excellence competition and development application stages.

The proposed scheme has been developed in collaboration with the proponent, with any environmental effects resulting from the proposal having been identified and resolved during assessment. Design principles to ensure environmental effects such as overshadowing are appropriately managed have been incorporated into the draft DCP. Environmental impacts are discussed in section 5.4 of this Planning Proposal.

Q9. Has the Planning Proposal adequately addressed any social and economic effects?

This planning proposal provides an opportunity to redevelop the site for visitor accommodation to support Sydney's tourism industry, which makes a significant contribution to the local and state economy. During the 2017/18 financial year, 6.09 million international and domestic overnight visitors stayed in commercial accommodation located in the City of Sydney LGA. The Australian government's tourism strategy set ambitious national targets to double visitor spending by 2020 to \$140 billion.

2013 analysis by the City of Sydney found that a sustainable supply of visitor accommodation is needed to support projected tourism growth. It calculated a need for 5,759 additional rooms between 2013 and 2021, plus a further 5,499 rooms between 2022 and 2030, particularly in the 3 star range.

City of Sydney's Sustainable Sydney 2030 and 2013 Tourism Action Plan established objectives to encourage and facilitate additional visitor accommodation development within the council area. Approaches such as this planning proposal deliver on this objective.

Redevelopment of the site also offers social benefits of greater public access and enjoyment of the local heritage item at 4-22 Wentworth Avenue and revitalised uses. In terms of economic benefits, it will contribute to the diversification of Sydney's hotel stock and provide additional employment opportunities.

5.7. State and Commonwealth interests

Q10. Is there adequate public infrastructure for the planning proposal?

The site is located in an area that is well serviced by public transport. Frequent major bus and train services are located within walking distance of the site. These public transport services provide access to various destinations in the Sydney metropolitan area, including the CBD, the eastern and inner western suburbs, and beyond.

The traffic assessment prepared by ARUP Pty Ltd found there are no traffic or transport issues that would prevent the proposed scheme from being approved.

The Planning Proposal will increase the amount of development floor space permitted under the existing floor space ratio control by around 0.38:1 for hotel or motel accommodation only, or about 0.41:1 should the development achieve design excellence. The site is centrally and suitably located, and the increase in worker and visitor population generated as a result of the proposal is not anticipated to result in excessive or undue density impacts.

The draft DCP proposes site-specific controls to appropriately manage traffic impacts including location of vehicle entries and servicing.

All utility services including electricity, telecommunications, water, sewer and stormwater are currently available on the site. If the site is redeveloped it is expected the developer will upgrade these services to support the proposed development.

Q11. What are the views of state and Commonwealth public authorities consulted in accordance with the Gateway determination?

The Gateway Determination will advise the public authorities to be consulted as part of the Planning Proposal process. Any issues raised will be incorporated into this Planning Proposal following consultation in the public exhibition period.

6. Mapping

The planning proposal does not seek to amend any maps contained in Sydney LEP 2012. Instead, additional building height and an increased floor space ratio are proposed to be allowed through insertion of a new clause in Sydney LEP 2012, as discussed earlier in this report.

7. Community consultation

Public consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Gateway Determination.

It is proposed that, at a minimum, this will involve the notification of the public exhibition of the Planning Proposal on the City of Sydney website, relevant local newspaper(s) circulating widely and in writing to the owners and occupiers of adjoining and nearby properties and relevant community groups.

It is expected the Planning Proposal will be publicly exhibited for at least 28 days in accordance with section 5.5.2 of 'A guide to preparing local environmental plans'.

It is proposed that exhibition material will be made available on the City of Sydney website and at Town Hall House at 456 Kent Street, Sydney.

Consultation with relevant NSW agencies and authorities and other relevant organisations will be undertaken in accordance with the Gateway Determination.

8. Project timeline

The anticipated timeframe for the completion of the planning proposal is as follows:

Table 8: Proposed project timeline

Stage	Timeframe
Commencement / Gateway Determination	February 2020
Government agency consultation	mid-February/March 2020
Public exhibition	mid-February/March 2020
Consideration of submissions	April 2020
Post exhibition consideration of proposal	May 2020
Draft and finalise LEP	May 2020
LEP made	May 2020
Plan forwarded to Department of Planning and Industry for notification	May 2020

Appendix A1: Proponent's urban design report

Appendix A2: Proponent's indicative plans

Appendix A3: Proponent's heritage impact statement

