



Council Ref: 25/48070
Your Ref:

25 February 2025

The Hon Paul Scully, MP
Minister for Planning & Public Spaces
Parliament House
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister Scully

**Low and Mid Rise Housing Policy
Urgent Meeting Request**

I am writing to follow up on my correspondence to you, dated 11 February 2025, in which I requested an urgent meeting with the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and yourself to discuss the Low and Mid-Rise Housing Policy (LMR).

As advised on 11 February 2025, Woollahra Council has consistently met the housing targets set by the NSW Government and is well-positioned to continue doing so. We have been proactive in delivering appropriate development that respects the character of our neighbourhoods. Since 2016, we have added over 100 new dwellings annually, significantly contributing to the state's housing stock. Over the same period, we exceeded the 2016-2026 housing target, delivering over 850 new dwellings. We are comfortably on track to meet the new target of 1,900 dwellings.

Despite these efforts, of which the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure is aware, the LMR reforms have been pushed through with no consultation and only a week's notice given before implementation. Our strategies for areas like Double Bay and Edgecliff aim to deliver new dwellings through high planning standards, while the LMR reforms target neighbourhoods that are simply unable to cater to the scale of development proposed.

Woollahra Council remains committed to supporting housing growth, but it is essential that any future development respects the existing character of our diverse neighbourhoods and their constraints. We are advocating for responsible, place-based planning that balances housing needs with the preservation of local heritage and the limited transport, health and education infrastructure provided by the NSW Government in our Local Government Area.

I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to explore a more constructive way forward.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Cr Sarah Swan
Mayor of Woollahra