



Mr Peter Gesling  
General Manager  
Port Stephens Council

11 January 2010

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES FACILITIES ON THE TOMAREE PENINSULA**

Dear Sir

TRRA wishes to raise the issue of co-location of emergency services facilities on the Tomaree Peninsula, in light of the recent approval of a Development Application for a new Ambulance Station on Salamander Way.

We understand that a combined or at least co-located police, fire and ambulance station has been under discussion for some time, and that during 2008-09 negotiations took place about a possible site at the corner of Gan Gan Road and Nelson Bay Road. This would have been an ideal central site for a combined facility, which TRRA believes would be in the interests of the community as well as yielding potential savings and efficiencies.

We request a briefing on the current state of planning for other emergency services facilities. The existing NSW Fire Brigade station in Yacaaba St, Nelson Bay, like the Ambulance station on Donald St, occupies a valuable site which, if vacated, could be integrated into the plans currently being developed for the Nelson Bay town centre. Please confirm ownership of these two sites.

We seek assurances that the decision to locate a new ambulance station on Salamander Way, while welcome, does not prejudice longer term options for co-location with Police, Fire and/or SES. Please confirm whether there is Council owned land on Salamander Way adjacent to the ambulance station site which is available and suitable for other emergency services, and that the design of the ambulance station will leave open the possibility of shared access and services.

We are copying this letter to the State Member, Craig Baumann, since we know he has been involved in previous discussions on this issue, as have a number of the East Ward Councillors. We also copy it to Superintendent Haggett of NSW Police, who we also understand to have expressed support a combined facility.

Yours faithfully

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