

## Frequently Asked Question

### 1 General questions

Q: Why is UTS thinking about making changes to the Kuring-gai Campus?

A: Since 2003 UTS has been considering what changes need to take place at its Kuring-gai Campus to ensure the University continues to provide all its students with the best possible teaching, learning and research experiences.

The Federal Government has made it clear that universities must develop and implement strategies to ensure long-term sustainability. Over the past decade student interest in studying at Kuring-gai has been declining. For example, two-thirds of the nursing program applicants in 2009 who did not secure a place at the City Campus but were offered a place at the Kuring-gai Campus declined the offer, opting instead to study at another suitably located University. Students today prefer a more central location where they have easy access to part-time work and accommodation.

It has become apparent that the Kuring-gai Campus in its current form is not sustainable and that changes have to be made.

Q: What does this mean for current students (including those commencing their studies in 2010)?

A: The University has assured students that current Kuring-gai course offerings will continue at Kuring-gai until at least end-2014. It is also important to note that under the rules of the University, and in particular [Rule 3.6](#), (this can be viewed at <http://www.gsu.uts.edu.au/rules/3-6.htm>) the University undertakes to make reasonable practicable arrangements to allow students already enrolled in courses that are being altered or closed, to complete the courses within normal time parameters for the course. The University would adhere to such an approach if any courses were to be transferred from Kuring-gai to the City (from 2015 at the earliest).

Q: If the site is sold where would the money go?

A: Should the site be sold, 100 percent of sale proceeds would be invested in enhancing and expanding teaching and learning facilities at UTS's City Campus where student demand is high. It would allow UTS to accommodate additional teaching, nursing and business students on the City Campus.

Q: What community consultation has been conducted?

A: There has been extensive consultation with the community on a previous rezoning concept that was lodged with Ku-ring-gai Council including significant input from a Community Reference Group (CRG).

UTS has listened to the community and made significant changes to the proposal. The current proposal takes into account the community issues identified in the previous consultation process (CRG process). The Department of Planning also established an independently facilitated CRG.

UTS has also been undertaking additional consultation activities including providing feedback opportunities.

Q: How will the University make a final decision about the Kuring-gai Campus?

A: Once all the viable options are available for consideration, the University Council will assess those options and make a decision.

## 2 Rezoning Application and Concept Plan

Q: What is UTS proposing for the site should it decide to leave the Campus?

A: A concept plan for the redevelopment of the Kuring-gai Campus has been approved. It builds on the "hilltop" town vision of the original architects. It aims to create a harmonious balance between the built and natural environments. The plan sets out a range of residential and community uses for the Campus and offers a range of housing types from traditional family homes to townhouses and apartments.

Q: How does the proposal try to protect bushland on the site?

A: Important areas of existing bushland are preserved under the proposal. New buildings are located almost wholly on the existing built footprint.

Q: How does the proposal protect the site's heritage?

A: Significant educational buildings on the site would be preserved and protected through adaptive re-use. There has been significant consultation with the site's original architect and landscape architect.

Q: How would flora and fauna on the Campus be protected?

A: Extensive work has been undertaken on the environmental aspects of the project. Threatened species have been identified and the need for their protection has been integrated into the proposed concept plan. All species, both flora and fauna, that have been identified are provided for within existing habitats.

Q: What consideration has been given to the danger of bushfires?

A: Extensive work has gone into developing appropriate bushfire protection measures. Bushfire protection zones (APZs) and fire fighting access have been provided in the plan. This work has included consultation with the Rural Fire Service. This proposal will comply with the relevant guidelines.

Q: How many houses, townhouses and apartments are proposed for the site?

A: The first proposal contained 566 dwelling plus adaptive re-use of the heritage building.

The revised proposal has 345 dwelling plus adaptive re-use of the existing building.

The concept plan caters for a range of lifestyle choices ranging from traditional family homes to townhouses and apartments. The aim is to cater for families along with young people starting out and empty nesters looking to downsize while remaining in their local community.

Q: What will happen to the oval?

A: The oval will be gifted to Ku-ring-gai Council, with continuing access for the community.

Q: What will happen to the childcare centre?

A: The current childcare centre is provided by UTS Child Care Incorporated (Inc.) to care for the children of staff and students. A lack of student demand at Kuring-gai Campus has allowed UTS to make spare places available to the community.

The proposed zoning does allow for a childcare service and is one of a number of issues that will no doubt be closely examined over the next couple of years.

Q: Under the proposal how would waste water and storm water be managed?

A: Water management forms one of the key environmental considerations of the concept plan. Stormwater quantity and quality flowing into areas of National Park will be significantly improved by the provision of biosensitive controls within the developed areas.

Q: How can I provide feedback?

A: Feedback for UTS can be submitted online via the UTS website  
<http://datasearch.uts.edu.au/about/executive/kuringgai/FeedbackForm.cfm>