

SICEEP, NORTH PLOT AND THE SQUARE (SSDA10) – RESPONSE TO PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

Item Raised	Proponent's Response
Francine de Valence This is an imaginative, well designed building which will provide a beautiful light filled and modern space for a new, expanded public library and hopefully an interesting, gourmet market place underneath. It will be another point of architectural interest for visitors and tourists to complement the wonderful Frank Gehry building and will be a welcome change in an otherwise drab development . It is such a pity the whole Darling Harbour redevelopment could not have been designed with more iconic, attractive buildings. The theatre is truly ugly and a blight on the landscape and the Darling Square residential towers just the usual boring Lend Lease boxes.	Noted, the proposal has been designed as an iconic building to be viewed in the round. The building will significantly contribute to the precinct, noting the ambitions for design excellence in every building provided through the SICEEP project.
Pymont Action Pymont Action members have participated in every "consultation" held in association with the redevelopment of Darling Harbour and Haymarket. Despite our engagement, virtually none of the changes we have sought which would bring benefit to the Pymont and Ultimo communities have been included in the final approvals and both suburbs are now permanently blighted by the ICC development, in particular. The one benefit we thought we had achieved was the provision of a community building, to include a Library and childcare centre which, we understood, would be implemented in conjunction with the City of Sydney. The building now on exhibition is not a community building, but a commercial building with 2 floors of space to be made available to the City of Sydney, and two floors for a commercial childcare centre. The other spaces are also for commercial use. This is not what we were promised. We are advised by the City of Sydney that it sought to obtain access to the childcare centre space, to enable provision of affordable, not-for-profit childcare which is desperately needed by inner city families, as well as workers, but that this was refused by the developers.	The proposed development includes both a library and child care facility. The library, located on Levels 1 and 2, will be managed and operated by the City of Sydney Council. The proposed building provides a range of complementary uses, namely community and lifestyle uses which will service the needs of surrounding residents and visitors to the precinct. The proposed uses include a market hall, library, child care centre and bar/restaurant. These uses complement each other and will provide a broad range of services and facilities to meet the needs of the surrounding community. As anticipated throughout the project, the child care centre will be operated and managed consistent with the regular procedures of ordinary child care centres.

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We understand that the fit-out of the library space will be subject to a separate DA, to be submitted by the City of Sydney and ask that community consultation with the City of Sydney during the development of these plans be a condition of approval for the SSDA.	Noted. The fit out of the proposed library will be conducted by the City of Sydney through a separate planning process. The proponent does not have any control over consultation before, or during, this separate planning process.
We also ask that the Department of Planning, which made provision of a community building a condition of approval of the Darling Square redevelopment, make it a condition of approval of the SSDA for the Darling Exchange Building, that the City of Sydney be provided with the childcare space on the same terms as the space for the Library. In that way, the building will be primarily for community benefit, not simply a commercial building with 2 floors of community space.	The proposed development, including the Darling Exchange building and the uses provided within this building, is consistent with the approved Concept Proposal (as modified). There is no agreement in place between the proponent and the City of Sydney for the proponent to provide any child care facilities to the City of Sydney Council for ownership, operation or management.