

Sydney YIMBY is strongly supportive of the proposed development at 100 Edinburgh Rd Castlecrag. We support efforts to deliver more housing across Sydney, including in locations that have traditionally - and we consider unfairly - been allowed to be excepted from doing their part in providing housing.

ABS data shows that in 2001 castlecrag had 1037 dwellings, which by 2021 had declined to 1030 dwellings.¹ Sydney YIMBY believes that every part of Sydney must do its part in providing housing for our wonderful city. Sydney has a chronic shortage of housing, which has been worsening for at least 3 decades. Governments at all levels must share responsibility for this. We are now at a point where generational wealth is needed to afford housing in Sydney. The only real corrective to unaffordable housing is more housing.

The proposed site was occupied by a nondescript shopping centre, and we are encouraged to see that this site will provide 150 homes, with a good mix of dwellings from 1 to 3 bedrooms, including 10 affordable dwellings. Sydney YIMBY is strongly supportive of developments that provide a good mix of housing, as we recognise that denser housing must support households of varying sizes, including families.

We want to see a city that houses its essential workers, rather than simply pushing them to the fringe with commutes of two hours or even longer. Again, the best way to achieve this is by building enough housing to ensure that the cost of housing declines. Research shows that building more housing creates “filtering chains” across the metro area. This development will help housing affordability across the Lower North Shore and wider across the city as a result.

The inclusion of retail and social infrastructure as part of the development will support both the people who live in the new development, along with those who live nearby. Additionally, the location provides excellent amenity, with good public transport links to the CBD and North Shore.

We note that objections have been expressed to this development on the basis of a nearby heritage conservation area. While Sydney YIMBY is generally sceptical of the value of heritage conservation areas, this development is not even within the Griffin Conservation Area. Sydney is already swamped by HCAs and other restrictive controls that prevent the delivery of housing. We categorically reject the idea that the locations affected by HCAs should be extended beyond their already extensive areas.

The suggestion that this development will impact the Griffin Conservation Area should be rejected as the spurious assertion that it is, and this development is approved to allow much-needed housing to be delivered.

¹ ABS Community profiles [SSC 11481](#) (2001), [SAL 10848](#) (2021)

About Sydney YIMBY

Sydney YIMBY is a grassroots, non-profit housing advocacy group. We are funded by the contributions of our hundreds of members, who pay us a small membership fee. We do not accept donations from property developers or their employees, and we do not accept these people as members. All of our activism is done by volunteers in their spare time.

Sydney YIMBY's membership is made up of planners, economists and ordinary Sydneysiders, people of all ages and from all walks of life. Our membership skews younger than the overall population. Our membership includes both renters and owner-occupiers. This make-up reflects the concerns of young people that they are being systematically excluded from the housing market in Sydney.

We are animated by a belief that a denser city will be more affordable, sustainable and liveable. To learn more about us visit our website: <http://sydney.yimby.au/>, or reach out to sydney@yimby.au.