

James Carrington

126 Corlette Street

Cooks Hill

NSW 2300

15/12/2021

Response to SSD-13895306 Newcastle Grammar School Redevelopment of
127 Union Street, Cooks Hill

I live in a town house complex immediately next to the Proposed Development of Newcastle Grammar School - Park Campus at 126 Corlette Street Cooks Hill 2300. I am married and I live in my townhouse with my spouse and a set of twins who are 7 years old. I have lived in this house for nearly 2 years.

I object to the project for the following reasons.

I first registered my interest in this project in March 2021 and I was told at the time that I would be contacted at a later date when it was time for community consultation and that I could be included in that consultation process. This did not happen and the first that I heard of the project proceeding was by letter from the NSW PI&E dated 25/11/2021. The letter arrived at my home on 30/11/2021. There are a vast number of reports and other information to review before the cut-off date on 16/11/2021. I have been in contact with a local ward councillor Carol Duncan to request support and more information. She has done her best to support but because of the recent council elections and the impending Christmas breaks and a resurgence of COVID in Newcastle there has been very little that she could do. I have called the local council to speak with officers who may have submitted a council response to this proposal, and nobody has been available to speak with me. I was advised by the council admin staff to lodge a formal request for a delayed lodgement of my submission. This was not granted. Hi James,

Thank you for your submission. I am unable to formally extend the notification period a further week as the Department of Planning Industry and Environment do not exhibit applications late December/Early January.

It is unrealistic for me to read all this material and lodge in the time frame given by the government. I don't have any staff to help me review the information. I don't have the time to contact all of the people submitting reports to check information that appears misleading or ill informed. Mt request for more time has been rejected.

- The current EIS application to your department states on page 21 section 6.

6 COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

In preparing the EIS, it is anticipated that the proponent will undertake consultation with the following stakeholders:

- + Newcastle Council;
- + Subsidence Advisory;
- + NSW Government Architect;
- + Transport for NSW;
- + Heritage NSW;
- + Hunter Water Corporation;
- + Environmental Protection Authority;
- + The local school community; and
- + Surrounding landowners and the broader community.

I do not believe that the views of surrounding landholders and the broader community have been considered adequately in the report commissioned by Mara Consulting. Yesterday I called Mara consulting to ask why my views were not considered and why I was not contacted to participate in their process of consultation after registering my interest back in March 2021. I spoke with Tadd Andersen whose name is on the report to ask a number of questions regarding the report. He stated that he could not answer any of my questions as he had not yet read the finalised report however he told me that he would get another staff member to call me later in the day. A staff member did call me and she stated that the report was accurate. I told her that many people were unaware of the report research was taking place and the current report was not reflective of what currently happens in this area.

That are many issues that are not even mentioned in the report. Currently the Grammar school is on a very small plot of land. On two sides the school is currently surrounded by social housing.

Many live below or on the poverty line. There are many multi story social housing building all along the parkway avenue frontage to the Grammar School these homes have no onsite parking. This is a picture of the style of social housing the is adjacent and all along the Parkways Avenue frontage to the existing school.



Here is the view of social housing that are actually two building deep and that is facing across and all along Parkway Avenue opposite Grammar.



There are 406 units on three levels on the northern boundary facing Union Street. They have an ingress egress from their underground parking facilities that will feed their cars out onto Corlette Street that will be parallel to the Grammar School Drop and Kiss Roadway.



Here is a view of Corlette Street taken today 15/12/2021 after school. Corlette street is very narrow when pupils are being collected and cars are parked either side of the road passing in two direction is not possible. It is too narrow. This isn't mentioned in any reports why? I travel this road every day to collect my children at the same time when Grammar parents collect their kids its mayhem? You can't pass the cars parked either side of the road. Who has reported this?



This is supposed to be a two way street.

Immediately opposite the Grammar School in Corlette Street is a social Housing complex of 22 houses that have very little maintenance done on them. These people feel marginalised and unheard and rarely respond to calls for feedback. When Grammar parents began parking their cars in their off road carparks in their complex earlier this year they simply scratched the cars because nobody listens to them nor wants to help them.

Here is a picture of one typical yard in this complex this house is almost opposite the ingress egress roadway that will run parallel to the new road being proposed at Grammar.



This house is close to Grammar School student entrances on Corlette Street and the lady who lived there died in November a report is being prepared by the Coroner. As a resident of Corlette Street I was interviewed by police forensic officers the morning after she was found naked and dead in her house.

Next to this complex but still very close to Grammar entrances in Corlette Street there is another social housing village that was originally set up to house Elderly or disabled social housing residents. The complex is better maintained by the departments responsible. This complex still generates many police visits and your researchers should have looked into these issues as I believe they affect my children and may also affect children at Grammar.

There was a police siege last year that occurred during parent collection times at Grammar. Corlette Street was closed by police from Parkway Avenue to Cook Street. There were up to 20 police, health officials and many more. We were told not to leave our homes. Nothing about this ever appeared in any media as it seems this is how these issues are handled.

Our children were very scared by this incident as the police had guns out and the children were very scared. Is this a suitable area to redevelop a prestige school?

I have lived here for two years I have called the principal three times to discuss drugs being sold at the gate in view of parents dropping children off at the gate and other parking issues. The principal has not once returned my calls but only once was I passed to the deputy who listened to my concerns. There is no community consultation that I have witnessed by the administration at this school.

Currently we have of the current Grammar staff taking up most of the kerbside parking in Corlette street on school days and they start arriving between 7.30 and 8.30am. The federal government has a policy to fund aging people to stay longer in their homes. I have noticed more and more carers starting to visit the residents of the over 50's and disability residents under the implementation of this federal policy. The carers visit during school hours and on many days, they cant find car parks close to the residents. This is an issue that was not in the community consultation report.

I constantly need to juggle any maintenance workers and or tradesmen coming to my home as all the roadside parks are taken early in the day by Grammar staff.

Garbage days are a big problem in Corlette. It is a narrow street in relation to other roads in Cooks Hill. Because the road is narrow and any parks are eagerly sought out weekly garbage collections are often not collected for many reasons.

Cars parked prevent garbage trucks from collecting bins from the footpath which is legally where they should be collected. We need to put our bins out on the road so that the council trucks can collect our garbage. See picture on next page.

If the council truck turns from Parkway Avenue into Corlette Street and this time coincides with the morning drop off of students into Corlette Street then the truck doesn't have the space to move up Corlette Street and a number of times this gets reported to both the school and the council. This is a current problem NOW. This was not in the current social impact report and should have been.

There is another current issue Staff from Grammar currently part all along our street up to Tooke Street on busy days. Many times, I have noted staff coming to work and putting residents' full bins back up on the footpath and taking a carpark. They gather their schoolbooks leave the car and leave the bin up on the footpath and or put the bin back in a position that the truck can't access.

Residents bins are left full as the teacher drives off at the end of the day. I have reported issues like this to the council but learnt that the Grammar Principal rarely responds to requests like this.

I believe that the social impact report and other reports are not adequate and at least the social/Community impact report should be requested to be done again outside of lock down times and with greater input from the real community surrounding the school. I live here next to the

school, and I know the extra burden placed on residents by the school at the current size. Many people are affected daily, and the numbers of community members consulted are very very poor. With lock downs this was not the year to do this and prepare a report that doesn't represent reality, I have witnessed many near misses in Corlette street at drop off and collection times it a very narrow street.

Please request another social impact report at the very least. This school does not consult well with its local community!





This shows a collection day outside my home. People now try to put their bins in blocks to stop the Grammar teachers from moving the bins back to the footpath. I have tried to discuss this with the Principal but she doesn't return calls at times.

Social Impact Assessment Park Campus Redevelopment

Please at least ask for this report to be redone before you make your determination it doesn't reflect community concerns!

Please help us!



To improve and encourage Active Travel the school commits to;

- Continuing to educate drivers who do not follow the road rules and parking restrictions around the school precinct. In this respect the local police assistance will continue to be sought.
- Encouraging students to ride or walk to school.; and
- Encourage students to use the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS).

5. Action Plan

The following Action Plan has been developed to implement the schools Traffic Management Plan;

1. Ensure this traffic management plan is communicated to all parents and students through inclusion in all school information sessions and orientations.
2. Ensure the objectives of the plan are regularly reinforced to parents and students through information within regular school communications such as weekly or monthly newsletters and / or principal messages. This is to include details of any issues arising from the operation of the Traffic Management Plan as a means of enforcement of the plan.
3. Roster and train suitable numbers of teachers for duties such as marshalling students and parents within the kiss and ride facility and within the street to ensure students are set down or picked up in a timely and safe manner and that the 5-minute parking limit within the kiss and ride facility is strictly enforced.
4. Roster and train suitable numbers of teachers to lead and direct walking school buses from the school in the afternoon pick up period to suitable meeting points for parents within 100 metres of the school.
5. Ensure teachers/ staff undertaking marshalling and enforcement duties are provided with suitable personal protective gear. i.e. high visibility vests.
6. Should Council or the Police advise that periodic enforcement of parking and driving regulations around the school will be enforced, the Principal is to advise the school community through a regular or special communication of this action being taken before the enforcement period commences.

I have tried to read as many of the supporting documents and would have much more feedback if I had an authentic period of time to look at the documents but too many people are now commencing leave for the holidays and I'm out of time.

Please don't approve this project because this is the WRONG place to allow this to grow. They may need to expand but this block of land is a postage stamp size for a school and you will create great unrest in the community if you allow this to proceed¹

Take a look at the traffic report on the previous page. No 6 states should the school hear that the police will enforce parking and driving regulations then the principal should warn them before the action takes place. I guess for me that just shows the attitude of the school toward the residents.....lets forewarn our parents them and everything will look amazing when the authorities have been asked to come and take a look at the bad behaviour.

What kind of school is this if that is part of their planning?

It concerns me greatly.

James Carrington