Ms Prity Cleary (Assessment Officer)

NSW Department of Planning and Environment

Dear Ms Cleary

OBJECTION

SCEGGS DARLINGHURST

We object to the proposed SCEGGS Concept and Stage 1 development application and make the following submission.

HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS

In our opinion, the increase in height does not fit the heritage status of the site and the existing site buildings or of the surrounding area and context, which reflects the height of the existing buildings on the site and in the surrounding areas, which are largely 2 to 4 storey buildings. The height increase also fails to promote an appropriate sharing of iconic and other views with nearby residents. For these reasons, the proposed buildings which exceed the statutory height limits in the LEP should be rejected.

BULK

The proposed 7 storey multifunction building is too high and not set back from the existing two storey 19th century terraces that are adjacent to the building on both Thomson and Bourke Streets. The bulk and scale of the building is inappropriate for context of the surrounding heritage conservation zone. The non-compliance with the LEP is not justified in the circumstances.

HERITAGE IMPACTS

Some of the buildings to be demolished are over 100 years old. The buildings in question are all in good order, and not only have heritage significance within the listed site, but also contribute to the heritage character of the surrounding items and the heritage conservation area. Given the comments above about the need for the project, and that the precise specific future school uses of the proposed new building envelopes remains unclear, there has been no robust assessment of whether the proposed demolition of heritage buildings, and the significant loss of our heritage is justified.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Hudson & Simon Barton

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