

Apartment 404 The Horizon 184 Forbes Street Darlinghurst NSW 2010

2 April 2019

Ms Prity Cleary NSW Department of Planning and Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001 Department of Planning Received 4 APR 2019

Scanning Room

Dear Ms Cleary

Objection – SSD -17-8993 SCEGGS Darlinghurst Concept and Stage 1 DA

I have had an opportunity to look at the SCEEGGS Masterplan documents, and have two principal objections:

Traffic Management

The current traffic impact of parents and carers dropping off and collecting students is a major concern for residents of the Horizon. The narrow Forbes and Bourke Streets, which are local roads, were not designed to cope with the amount of traffic now generated by SCEGGS at peak morning and afternoon periods. Apart from a person supervising students at pedestrian crossings, SCEGGS plays no role nor takes any responsibility for the impact of the traffic generated by student drop off and collection. Parents routinely double park, park in unauthorised zones and frequently use the Horizon entrance as a turning circle.

The Traffic Impact Assessment submitted as part of the Masterplan DA suggests that SCEGGS could deploy supervisors to manage traffic. Repeated requests to SCEGGS to do this have been to no avail. I believe a condition of consent to the DA should include a requirement for SCEGGS to provide authorised traffic controllers at peak periods at both the Forbes and Bourke Street entrances each school day, to more effectively manage traffic movement and ensure compliance with road rules and parking restrictions.

Traffic congestion is compounded outside peak drop off and collection times as a result of SCEGGS control of St Peters Street, a public road. I do not understand how SCEGGS has taken control of this road, and determined when the public may have vehicular access to it. The result is that when the road is restricted all traffic is required to u turn at the end of Forbes Street, significantly increasing two way traffic movement. This is a particular problem at night and weekends, when the gymnasium is regularly used by other groups. A condition of the DA consent should require SCEGGS to provide 24 hour, 7 day a week access to the public to use this public road.

The Masterplan includes provision to a 90 place child care facility. The traffic generated as a result of SCEGGS incorporating a child care facility would be very significant, as most parents would drive and be required to park and leave their vehicles to drop off and collect their children. The Traffic impact assessment does not address the impact of the proposed child care centre. This is a significant omission. The DA consent should prohibit the development of a child care facility at SCEGGS, on the grounds that the traffic impact it would generate is unacceptable.

Wilkinson House

I strongly object to the demolition of Wilkinson House. This is a listed heritage building and part of the East Sydney Heritage Conservation area. I understand it was designed by Emil Sodersten, who later achieved recognition as the winner of the design competition for the National War Memorial in Canberra, and went to design other notable apartment buildings in Potts Point and Elizabeth Bay, including Birtley Towers and Marlorough Hall. Wilkinson House is thought to be his first Sydney commission. So this building is significant in contributing to the recognition of an under recognised and influential architect of the early twentieth century.

The building occupies a highly prominent position on the SCEGGS site, and its design complements the series of buildings on the southern side of William Street, also recognised in the East Sydney Heritage Conservation area.

I support Option 2 outlined in the Heritage Assessment documentation, for the retention of the complete building façade, and the adaptive re-use of its interior configuration. The DA consent should approve this option and preserve this item of local heritage significance.

I trust my comments are of assistance in achieving outcomes of benefit to the local community in the further development of the SCEEGS school facilities.

Yours sincerely Elle Rent

Ellie Bunt