

From: Cooks Hill Community Group Inc  
C/- 95 Corlette St  
Cooks Hill NSW 2300

19 September 2014

**RE: SSD 6457 NeW Space Project, University of Newcastle**

Cooks Hill Community Group Inc (CHCG) is a non-political community based group whose objectives include protecting the amenity of the residents of Cooks Hill, a residential suburb immediately to the south of the NeW Space site.

CHCG generally **supports the proposed changes to the Conservatorium car park** in Laman and Gibson Sts. Despite the loss of on-street parking space in Laman St caused by the new carpark entry, the removal of traffic travelling to the parking area via Charles St is seen to benefit nearby residents. We are also hoping the proposed narrower driveway to the carpark on the Gibson St side will increase on-street parking spaces. The increase in off-street parking spaces for the Conservatorium will help reduce the current parking overflow which impacts nearby residents.

We do **raise concerns about the materials used on the exterior of the proposed carpark façade in Gibson St**. The proposed "perforated steel mesh" screening is unsympathetic within the context of the surrounding Heritage Conservation Area. We request a more sympathetic treatment be considered.

CHCG **does not support the NeW Space proposal due to the complete lack of on-site parking** (we note the five proposed spaces are for service vehicles only). We would dispute the claim that 0% of students and staff will travel to the site by car. The demand for student and staff parking at the Callaghan Campus would seem to be totally at odds with these figures. Any honest assessment would recognise that **the project will generate significant demand for on-street parking in the broader precinct surrounding NeW Space**. This demand for on-street parking will have significant negative impacts the amenity of residents in neighbouring Cooks Hill.

As a minimum, **the site needs to provide the required parking to satisfy Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012 - 7.03.02 Parking Provision**. Given that the neighbouring new Courthouse, Council Administration and Tax Office buildings all have underground carparks, there is no reason NeW Space cannot do the same and provide on-site parking to help absorb its inevitable impact on the surrounding parking amenity. Alternatively, a less preferred option would be the **payment of the required Sec 94 contributions** in lieu of the required car parking to allow Newcastle Council to provide off-street parking infrastructure. This financial burden should not fall on Newcastle ratepayers.

Yours sincerely

Glenn Burgess on behalf of  
**Cooks Hill Community Group Inc**