The Northwood Action Group Inc

Building Our Community Spirit

PO Box 665, LANE COVE NSW 1595

northwood.action.group@hotmail.com

President: Ajaya Jayarao

Secretary:

10 September 2019

Mr David Martin
Group General Manager,
HammondCare
Level 4, 207B Pacific Highway
ST LEONARDS
NSW 2065

Subject: Briefings related to the Revised Greenwich Hospital Plan

Dear Mr Martin,

The Northwood Action Group (NAG), which has a membership of over 100 households from Northwood, wishes to make some observations on the HammondCare Proposal related to Greenwich Hospital Development.

You may be aware that many of our members have reviewed your initial planning proposal and have sent in their feedback and concerns on the proposal. They were happy with the direction issued to you, by the Department of Planning, to respond to the submissions and the concerns raised.

The residents have been awaiting your response to the Department of Planning's directive and an update from you on the revised plans. This may have well been your intent when setting up the drop-in event on August 28th; however, many of our members were unaware of that event at the Pallister House. We have also learnt subsequently, that some members of the Lane Cove community who had previously made submissions in respect of the plans, received no notification of the August 28th event.

It is unfortunate that HammondCare was unable to give the community more notice about the event and that it was held at a difficult time for many – perhaps a weekend may have been more convenient.

The concern of NAG (as well as many other Community Organisations in Lane Cove) is always that there should be an active and open consultations on any major proposal. Our Members have previously expressed that there was a lack of wider community consultation about HammondCare's Greenwich Hospital proposal.

In previous communications with your representatives, we agreed to attend any meetings that was open to all Community Organisations (instead of individual meetings). Our view is that we will all collectively benefit from hearing the views of others in the Community and also better understand HammondCare's responses to the queries raised.

We will be happy to participate in any such Open Community Forums and request you to please convene one in the next couple of weeks. We are aware that the Mayor of Lane Cove also requested the same of you on August 28th. Our view is that the drop-in session on that day was inadequate for the purpose since not only were all members unaware of it, but the few who did attend would not have heard all the ongoing discussions between your representatives and those present. This we believe can only be achieved in a formal Q&A session.

NAG is also keen to understand the response from HammondCare to each of the ten items listed in Attachment A of the Planning Department's letter to HammondCare (dated 17 April 2019).

In summary, since your new plan includes a range of changes of interest to the community, we hope that HammondCare will undertake widespread consultation, and a formal Q&A Session to allow community members to fully understand the scope and function of the revised development plans for the hospital site.

We look forward to a favourable response to our submission.

Yours faithfully

Ajaya Jayarao

President

Copies to

- General Manager and Councillors Lane Cove Council
- Megan Fu, Department of Planning. Industry and Environment