

6th April 2014

To:

Development Assessment Systems and Approvals
Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

Peter McManus P&I via email - peter.mcmanus@planning.nsw.gov.au

Stephane Kerr Sydney University via email – Stephane.kerr@sydney.edu.au

Re: Campus Improvement Program (CIP) State Significant Development (SSD 13_6123) Environmental Impact Statement.

REDWatch welcomes the opportunity to make some brief belated comments on Sydney University's Campus Improvement Program (CIP). REDWatch wishes to raise a number of concerns and objections we wish to see the University and Planning and Infrastructure (P&I) address.

DGR's Consultation requirements

REDWatch has already written to the P&I Director-General raising our concerns that Sydney University did not comply with the Director-General's Requirements (DGRs) for this project in relation to community engagement (this correspondence is attached). We have attached our correspondence on this issue rather than repeat it here.

The DGRs specifically required the University to consult with REDWatch, RAIDD and other community groups in the preparation of the CIP. As Sydney University did not comply with this DGR, REDWatch was unable to access information about the CIP until it went on its initial 28 day exhibition.

The timing of the exhibition coincided with REDWatch volunteers also working on other important issues in our region which resulted in REDWatch being unable to do a quick assessment of such a large the proposal and to organise a community information meeting. The timing was also such that the South Sydney Herald was unable to run any analysis of the proposal until after the initial exhibition had ended. The University's agreement to voluntarily extend the exhibition, while welcomed, was not a substitute for providing adequate time for the community groups and the broader community to understand the proposal.

The Director General has advised REDWatch that P&I will "exhibit the University's Response to Submissions report when received, along with the EIS, and invite further public submissions at this time. Following this further exhibition period, the agency may request a further Response to submissions report from the University to address any potential additional issues raised".

While REDWatch objects to the University's failure to consult as required and believes the community has been disadvantaged by the University's non-compliance, REDWatch welcomes the response by P&I to the University's failure to comply with the DGRs. The P&I response enables REDWatch and the broader community to comment on the University's responses to people's initial concerns as would have been the case had the University earlier complied with the DGRs.

Given the University's failure to respond the P&I consultation requirements, REDWatch requests that Sydney University provide written undertakings and/or P&I's approval of the CIP include conditions to ensure Sydney University consults on an ongoing basis with REDWatch, RAIDD, and the surrounding community regarding future development proposals on the University and the subsequent stages of the CIP. The University's failure to consult on the CIP requires both this condition and P&I to check the University's compliance with it.

REDWatch is of the view that the CIP proposals will have significant impact on the Darlington community and that currently details of the proposal are not adequately understood in the community. Early engagement is crucial on large and complex projects where there is a large volume of the material to be read, digested and appropriately responded to, as was the case with the CIP. REDWatch wants to ensure community understanding of the proposals at the CIP stage so that as far as possible any issues can be identified and addressed as early as possible.

Community Principles

REDWatch is of the view that some basic community principles should inform the CIP. In previous discussions with the University, residents have put to the University that its developments should be designed so as to minimise their impact on the surrounding community. The impacts that are to be minimised should include traffic generating activities and uses that may impact adversely on the adjoining residential community. High impact developments should be within the main body of the University and well away from the surrounding residential areas.

For example the community objected strongly to the decision by the University to relocate some sporting facilities from the middle of campus to immediately adjacent to the residential area in Darlington. This move has increased traffic and other impacts on the local community which should have been retained within the campus.

REDWatch submits that the CIP should aim to “do no harm” to the surrounding community and that minimising the impact of the University on the surrounding residential neighbourhood should be a central principle of the CIP.

The University should develop in such a way as to address its existing impacts on the surrounding community. REDWatch submits that the University should also seek in its CIP to add benefit to the surrounding community. For example the suburb of Darlington, which was largely subsumed by the University in the 1970s, has little open space. The University's CIP should as a consequence explore how University facilities and open space might be managed to provide greater access and use by the surrounding community who currently have one small over used park and a pocket park in poor condition.

The University should also explore how it can break down the barriers, both physical and perceived, between the University and the community. It has previously been suggested to the University that the University could host some community activities within the University.

It should be remembered that the surrounding community has been impacted by the University historically and that it is impacted on an ongoing basis by the pedestrian and motor-vehicle traffic generated by the University. A greater opening up of University facilities to the surrounding community would be a small gesture by the University but significant to the community. Charles Kernan Reserve for example a small park seeking to provide for a range of uses in a small area that could easily be complimented by similar community facilities within the University.

As community uses tend to be counter cyclical to University uses, greater use the universities domain also improve security on University by increasing activity and putting more eyes on the street.

Had REDWatch been engaged by the University early in this process we would have encouraged the University to talk with the community about their interactions with the University. We would have encouraged the University to have included in the CIP a section dealing with issues from the community perspective and to include such a community / social interaction aspect into the CIP. Even though the University has formed its proposal without this discussion, REDWatch believe this is still an important element that needs to be incorporated.

REDWatch hence requests the University consult the community about what community issues surrounding residents would like to see addressed in the CIP. We recognise that this is more difficult now that the University has formed its proposal however we encourage the University to incorporate such an element into their modified CIP. We have mentioned a couple of these below.

Making the University more permeable to Community Pedestrian Movements

REDWatch is concerned that the campus improvement plan does not pay sufficient attention to community movements through the campus. The Sydney University campus provides a major barrier to the community when it wishes to move to locations beyond the University. One example of this is the Darlington community wishing to move to the swimming pool and open space in Victoria Park. Similar movement patterns from Darlington include desire lines to Carillon Avenue Royal Prince Alfred hospital. To make these trips from Darlington community members have to either move through the University in a non-direct route or move around the outside of the University.

Involvement of the community as envisaged by the DGR would have allowed some of these issues to have been raised early in the preparation of the CIP. REDWatch hence submits that the University should take into account the community desire lines in planning for the future of the University. The amended CIP should recognise these desire lines and seek to accommodate them in the long term University planning.

Redfern Station & Mitigating pedestrian impacts

The CIP recognises that a large number of students and staff move from Redfern station to University each day. In January 2014 the NSW Transport Minister said 50,000 people passed through Redfern station each day. The CIP proposes a 21% increase in students and staff using Redfern station by 2020. Redfern Station itself and the pedestrian route via Lawson Street is unable to deal with the existing patronage let alone the significant increase proposed.

The CIP Access strategy recognises problems at Redfern Station and on the pedestrian route to the University but is unable to suggest any solution as it is outside their ambit so it by and large acknowledges them, then ignores them and proposes greater density and numbers going through already stretched infrastructure.

REDWatch is of the view that in line with the P&I promises of infrastructure support for growth, P&I needs to address the problems at Redfern station and the associated pedestrian issues prior to allowing any further growth at the University and in the surrounding area.

As the area covered by the CIP falls within the draft Metro Strategy Sydney Education and Health Precinct, REDWatch submits that development such as this needs to be accompanied by Government commitment to the public infrastructure required to support the development.

An expansion in the University's floor space cannot be supported by REDWatch unless the government commits to addressing the issues at Redfern station and its associated pedestrian issues prior to the floor space being delivered at the University. Without this infrastructure REDWatch must oppose the CIP proposal.

The Government should not continue to approve floorspace for an area when infrastructure cannot support that growth. REDWatch would support an initiative from P&I to bring together the necessary government agencies to address existing pedestrian issues. REDWatch would also welcome P&I announcing the fast tracking the upgrade of Redfern station as infrastructure required to support Sydney University's proposed growth.

Minimising traffic impacts

The Darlington suburb is bordered on one side by the rail corridor and on the other by arterial roads. Traffic enters and leaves the area by a limited range of routes and minimising traffic in the area is a key community concern. The CIP proposes removing motor vehicles from the bulk of the campus and using car parks around the periphery. While REDWatch generally supports this proposal REDWatch submits that it must be done without directing additional traffic into surrounding residential areas. As a result the proposed new car parks in the Darlington precinct must include mechanisms that channel traffic onto arterial roads away from the Darlington residential area. The revised CIP and final P&I consents should provide an undertaking that exits and entrances to these car parks will funnel traffic to the arterial roads.

REDWatch notes that the CIP recognises there will be an increased traffic in Darlington precinct as a result of the new parking stations but this impact is not quantified in the CIP papers as far as we can see. The CIP takes the view that this increase in traffic is not significant given surrounding traffic volumes. While this may be so for the arterial road end of streets like Butlin, it is not the case for the land locked residential ends. Apart from the east west exits of Lawson and Wilson Streets the main access to arterial roads is past or through parts of the University to arterial roads.

A 21% increase in students and staff will also increase the number of people looking for parking. While the University already has a high public transport use rate, the CIP identifies that more needs to be done in this area and green travel plans for staff are one way that this can be achieved. The CIP should include an undertaking by the University to prepare a Sustainable Transport Strategy and Workplace Travel Plan similar to that introduced by Optus at Macquarie Park to be promoted to University staff and students.

As REDWatch has already noted, Redfern station is not an easy access station and that people with a physical disability or impairment cannot easily access the University by this means of public transport. This, plus growing congestion at Redfern station and on the pedestrian route to the University provides a disincentive for public transport use that needs to be addressed by P&I if this density increase the University is to be permitted.

REDWatch supports initiatives to make short-term parking within the University's car parks a more affordable option and thus remove parking pressure from students on the surrounding residential areas. REDWatch is however concerned with the proposal to increase full day rates as this may increase pressure on limited community parking around University. The University needs to work with the community around parking impacts and needs to monitor the impact on the surrounding

community of all changes to pricing within its car parks. If car parks continue to have a significant vacancies while surrounding residential streets are under pressure from student parking then the University must address this disconnect.

Student accommodation

REDWatch acknowledges the need for student housing in proximity to the University. REDWatch is also aware of some of the disruption caused by students on the surrounding community which needs to be minimised in the University's proposal. REDWatch is concerned that the CIP deals with sites one by one but does not provide a section on student housing or any social impact assessment of how such a large influx into Darlington or on the University will be managed. Apart from rooms what facilities will be provided to cater for such a large student population?

The CIP proposes 3200 student places be added to the Darlington precinct, however the CIP does not even specify precisely where the students will be located. The University's response to submissions, or modified CIP, needs to detail where it proposes student housing to be located and how this substantial increase will be serviced by the University.

P&I should not provide a blanket approval for student accommodation as an acceptable use across the University as a location relative to existing residential areas needs to be a key consideration.

While Mandelbaum House, with its small number of students, has a good relationship with surrounding residents and it still creates issues for surrounding residents from time to time. The CIP needs to make a more detailed assessment of the impact of student housing and buffers required to minimise its impacts on surrounding community. Sydney University will need to have in place mechanisms for dealing with antisocial behaviour that may affect surrounding residents. These are not evident in the CIP.

In the recent Central Park development in Chippendale there have been clashes between new residents (including students) and the surrounding community about the use of the park within the development. The University will need to make it clear to students that Cadigal Green is not their private space to avoid similar problems if surrounding residents are to have access to this even shorter-supply green space.

The draft CIP proposes student housing on the old University Regiment precinct. This student housing is immediately opposite the public housing between Forbes and Golden Grove Streets. This is not a desirable outcome and is especially problematic as the proposed student housing overshadows the public housing. REDWatch cannot support this location for student housing. As stated earlier, any developments which are likely to have a negative impact on the surrounding residential community should not be placed on the edge of the university adjacent to residential areas.

Protection of Darlington Street private residents

Over several decades the University has gobbled up much of the Darlington residential area. One of the few remaining features of the old residential area is the Darlington Street terraces. Currently the University does not own a number of these terraces and it is incumbent upon the University and P&I to ensure that development in proximity to these privately owned terraces do not deprive them of their amenity. The proposal for three-storey student housing to the boundary of private residences is opposed due to overshadowing and loss of residential amenity.

Heritage concerns

REDWatch also objects to three-storey student housing development in the backyards of the Darlington Street terraces as it degrades their heritage value especially as the plans show some encroachment on the rear of some terraces.

At this stage REDWatch objects to all CIP proposals that impact on heritage buildings. Prior to the CIP exhibition the University should have finalised its Grounds Conservation Management Plan and had it approved by the Heritage Office.

Currently heritage buildings on the Sydney University campus are not independently identified, assessed and protected. This must happen before any proposal to redevelop heritage buildings is approved and this should have been done before exhibition.

As it stands, in the absence of an approved assessment by the Heritage Office, REDWatch cannot support redevelopment of heritage buildings on the basis of the university's own self-assessment of their heritage significance.

For example, REDWatch is unable to assess the real significance of the Blackburn Building which is proposed to be demolished. While we recognise that this building has split levels and this causes

difficultly with refurbishment we are unable to trust self-assessment that this building can be removed in the absence of Heritage Office approval of the assessment.

REDWatch submits that the CIP should not be re-exhibited until such time as the Heritage Office and the University have reached agreement on the heritage significance of buildings on the University campus. At this time the amended Grounds Conservation Management Plan (CMP) should be publically released with the University's revised CIP.

The preparation of a CMP at a time when certain heritage buildings are proposed to be redeveloped raises conflicts of interest that need to be addressed before any final approval is given.

Pressure on Darlington Campus

REDWatch is concerned that the bulk of the development in the CIP is to take place on the Darlington Campus. This increase will put additional pressure on the surrounding residential area and the routes through Darlington to the University.

While REDWatch welcomes density being placed along City Road we are concerned about the large building proposed near the main pedestrian entrance to the University. It is our view that the height and bulk of this building is excessive given its proximity to the surrounding residential area. This building will have the ability to directly overlook surrounding residential properties. REDWatch objects to the scale of the new Multidiscipline Teaching and Research building proposed for this location and requests that this building be scaled back to a size consistent with other buildings currently in this precinct.

The Shepherd Street site

REDWatch is aware of the local concern about the proposed replacement of the existing trees along Shepherd Street with a new development. This grove of trees we have been advised by locals, was planted at the request of residents following an article about the problem in "Neighbourhood Witch" to soften the interface between the University and the surrounding community. REDWatch is concerned that this softening is to be replaced by a new building directly abutting the residential precinct. REDWatch submits that the CIP should look at softening the edge of the University along Shepherd Street and increasing permeability rather than placing a new building where the grove of trees currently stand.

As far as possible access to the University site should be via the arterial road system and in the case of Shepherd Street it should be via the first gate from Cleveland Street. University traffic should be actively discouraged from continuing along Shepherd Street and especially as far as the high pedestrian boardwalk entrance on Shepherd Street.

REDWatch notes that the University considers Shepherd Street as one of its gateways for drop-off and pickup points and REDWatch does not consider this to be appropriate.

Servicing Strategy

REDWatch has concerns about University's servicing strategy in Shepherd Street as this service centre is across the road from residential buildings. The CIP proposal removes the capacity for trucks to enter the University at this point potentially placing the vehicles waiting to access the distribution centre in a narrow street in proximity to the main pedestrian entrance to the University.

Further, figure 43 shows the campus service route running almost the length of Shepherd Street to enter the University. The service centre is near the major pedestrian entrance to the University from Redfern station and concentration of deliveries in this area and increased University use of Shepherd Street in general is problematic.

REDWatch submits that the service centre proposed for this area be located inside the university grounds somewhere along the service route indicated.

As indicated above in REDWatch's community design principles the University should seek to minimise its impact on the surrounding residential community and streets.

Shepherd Street is a narrow problematic inner-city street which contains the main pedestrian entrance to the University from Redfern Station it is not a suitable location for deliveries to and distribution around the University.

University undertaking to only use 85% of Building Envelopes

REDWatch notes that the University has prepared its CIP on the basis that only 85% of the building envelope shown will be used. REDWatch is concerned that unless this is made concrete in the approval the University's 85% undertaking is likely to be breached.

REDWatch hence submits that the University should provide a written undertaking to only use 85% of each envelope in its modified CIP and that P&I should specify a maximum of 85% utilisation of the envelopes for each building in any approval. The transfer of floor space between building sites should require separate approval.

Given the well accepted experience with in the building industry of envelope creep, REDWatch submits that the University's undertaking to only utilise 85% of the illustrated envelopes must be reflected in any final approval. There is a need for certainty about what is being approved.

In general terms REDWatch is of the view that strategic planning and master planning should reflect the maximum envelopes likely for a site. This is important if the surrounding community is to have faith in their involvement in the early preparation of plans. The established practice of increasing floor space at subsequent stages in the planning process undermines community confidence in the master planning process.

REDWatch submits to the University that if it moves to increase envelopes above its 85% undertaking in the Draft CIP that such a move would further undermine community trust in the University and the undertakings that it makes.

Conclusion

In summary REDWatch submits that:

- The CIP should not be approved unless P&I can get the Government to address the infrastructure deficiencies at Redfern Station and on the pedestrian route between the Station and the University.
- The University needs to do additional work concerning the impact of its student housing and limiting traffic impacts on Darlington before producing its response.
- The University needs to include in its CIP elements that reflect community perspectives on how the surrounding community interact or wish to interact with the University.
- The University needs to negotiate the Grounds CMP with the Heritage Office in dialogue with Heritage bodies like the National Trust and bring back to the community an agreed Heritage Assessment of the University's heritage assets that can be used by the community to assess the heritage impact of the University's CIP.
- The University needs to consider and adequately respond to a range of other concerns raised about their initial CIP by REDWatch and other in the extended community consultation.

In line with the undertakings of the Planning and Infrastructure Director General, REDWatch looks forward to the University's response to the issues raised and to being able to make further comments on the University's responses and revised CIP at that time.

In the meantime we encourage the University to undertake further dialogue with the community about how the CIP can be modified to meet both University and community aspirations for the future.

REDWatch have not made any political donations.

Yours Faithfully,



Geoffrey Turnbull
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REDWatch is a residents and friends group covering Redfern Eveleigh Darlington and Waterloo (the same area historically covered by the Redfern Waterloo Authority). REDWatch monitors government activities such as the RWA and seeks to ensure community involvement in all decisions made about the area. More details can be found at www.redwatch.org.au.



Office of the Director General

Mr Geoffrey Turnbull
REDWatch Spokesperson
c/- PO Box 1567
STRAWBERRY HILLS NSW 2012

14/04257

Dear Mr Turnbull

I refer to your email and attached letter of 3 March 2014 regarding State significant development application SSD 13_6123 for The University of Sydney's Campus Improvement Program and your concerns relating to the level of pre-lodgement consultation undertaken by the applicant in accordance with the Director General's Environmental Assessment Requirements (DGRs).

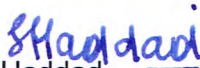
As you may be aware, no provisions exist under Part 4.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requiring an environmental impact statement (EIS) to be reviewed against the DGRs for adequacy. Notwithstanding this, prior to publicly exhibiting the EIS, the agency thoroughly reviewed the submitted EIS, and determined that Section 10 *Community Consultation* and Appendix N *Consultation Outcomes* satisfactorily addressed the DGRs for the purposes of exhibiting the EIS.

I am advised that the University of Sydney (the University) continued its community consultation during the EIS exhibition period, including the creation of a dedicated website, email communication to interested community members, letterbox drops advising of community drop-in sessions and the establishment of a Campus Improvement Program exhibition display. I am further advised that the University has now extended this consultation until 31 March 2014 and has undertaken further letterbox drops advising the community of this extended consultation.

I can also assure you that all submissions received by the agency, including those received following the completion of the EIS exhibition period, will be fully considered in the agency's assessment of the proposal. Furthermore, given the level of community interest in the proposal, the agency will formally exhibit the University's Response to Submissions report when received, along with the EIS, and invite further public submissions at this time. Following this further exhibition period, the agency may request a further Response to Submissions report from the University to address any potential additional issues raised.

I trust that the above information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely


Sam Haddad
Director General

7/3/2014.



Redfern, Eveleigh, Darlington & Waterloo Watch Group

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CC

Mr Michael Spence
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CC

Peter McManus – Email: peter.mcmanus@planning.nsw.gov.au
Greg Robinson Director (CIS) Email: gregrobinson@usyd.edu.au

Dear Director General,

RE: Failure to Comply with Director General's Environmental Assessment Requirements by the University of Sydney - SSD 13_6123 Campus Improvement Program 2014-2020 for Camperdown-Darlington Campus

REDWatch has only just sighted your requirements for this project.

The above referenced Director General's Requirements (Reissued 23 October 2013) contain the consultation requirements specified below:

Consultation:

During the preparation of the EIS, consultation must be undertaken with the relevant Commonwealth Government, State or local authorities, service providers, community groups and affected landowners.

In particular you must consult with:

- City of Sydney;
- University Community Groups (if relevant) and Residential Colleges;
- UrbanGrowth NSW;
- Transport for NSW;
- Roads and Maritime Services;
- NSW Heritage Council;
- Local heritage group/s;
- Local Aboriginal Land Council and relevant stakeholders;
- Local community groups, including but not limited to: REDWatch – Redfern Eveleigh Darlington Waterloo Watch and RAIDD – Residents Acting In Darlington's Defence.

The EIS must describe the consultation process and the issues raised, and identify where the design of the development has been amended in response to these issues. Where amendments have not been made to address an issue, a short explanation should be provided.

Attached please find the Community Consultation section of the abovementioned project's EIS, and Appendix N to which it refers, that should comply with the above requirements.

The key paragraph is as follows:

"The University has been engaging with the local community throughout 2013 on the Darlington Campus Abercrombie Redevelopment Project. This has resulted in meetings with key stakeholders and local community with the University providing regular communication regarding the development of the Business School, the Abercrombie Student Accommodation project and the Darlington Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Strategy. Details of these community stakeholders can be found at Appendix N."

The Vice Chancellor in correspondence to RAIDD on 24 February confirmed *"There is no suggestion that these community stakeholders were being consulted about the CIP in this reference."* REDWatch received similar confirmation from the University's Project Director responsible for the CIP.

The *Community Consultation Issues raised and CIP response* shown in the EIS hence does not relate to any consultation regarding the EIS, but are rather a list of issues the University has produced from discussions with residents attending meetings related to the separately approved Abercrombie Precinct Redevelopment Project. Only discussions about the Darlington Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Strategy, a PAC condition, related to a broader area but specifically excluded some matters which were to be covered in the CIP.

Sydney University has not consulted with REDWatch during the preparation of the EIS as required. REDWatch has repeatedly urged the University to engage the community in the preparation of such proposals. Late last year at one of the meetings the University has referenced in its EIS, REDWatch requested that the University call a meeting to present its Campus Improvement Program and discuss it with the community before it was put on exhibition. The University did not do this.

Furthermore there is no indication in the EIS that the University consulted with any of the other non-government stakeholder's referred to in your requirements, such as local heritage groups and the Local Aboriginal Land Council. Only Government and Authority feedback is reported and some other non-government groups only have names provided as was the case for REDWatch and RAIDD neither of which was consulted.

It is disappointing that the University worked with statutory agencies but failed to work in a seminal fashion with REDWatch and other groups named in the DGRs.

It is disappointing that your Department did not identify the University's non-compliance with the DGRs at the time of its pre-exhibition checks. At that point the University should have been asked to address the non-compliance.

The opportunity for the community and local stakeholders to provide input during the formulation of proposals is far more effective than merely commenting on them after they have been prepared and signed off by the organisation. This is not only because change is more difficult to affect later in the process, but the proponent gains the trust and benefit of local knowledge.

The community, through community groups like REDWatch and RAIDD, have been not only denied the opportunity to participate in the EIS preparation but also denied the early information about the project that would have allowed broader community discussion and a more considered community response and engagement in line with the Government's aspirations of community engagement early in the strategic planning process.

REDWatch also lost the opportunity to respond during the formal exhibition to how the University incorporated initial community input into the EIS. Under the current circumstances this could only be addressed by REDWatch being granted the opportunity to comment on the University's response to submissions.

The University's non-compliance has also meant that REDWatch has not been able to prepare a detailed submission for the Department prior to the end of the statutory exhibition.

For statutory purposes we request that this letter be taken as an objection for purposes of any decision to refer the assessment to the Planning Assessment Commission.

REDWatch, RAIDD and others have been busy requesting an extension for the exhibition. This would not have been such an issue had the University earlier consulted with resident groups. Only on 27 February were we advised that University would make special arrangements to consult the community until 31 March and to cover the issues raised by the community in the University's response on submissions to the department – see Vice Chancellor's letter also attached of 28 February.

While we welcome the further opportunity for the community to comment on the EIS, REDWatch is concerned that the statutory exhibition itself has not been extended and that the community is dependent on Sydney University to relay community representations regarding itself to the Department.

This approach is not satisfactory as the University's role is conflicted and submissions to the University would not be assessed by the Department in determining if the assessment was passed to the Planning Assessment Commission.

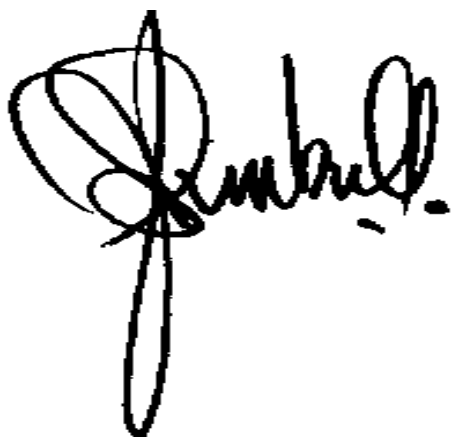
The current proposal also does not allow resident groups to comment to the Department about how the University has dealt with their initial concerns as would have been the case if the University had followed the DGRs.

REDWatch is seeking corrective action from the Department. Such corrective action should demonstrate that the Department takes compliance with its DGRs regarding community consultation seriously.

Such corrective action should provide a remedy to ensure REDWatch, RAIDD and any other community groups have similar opportunities to participate in the statutory planning process to those they would have had if the Sydney University had complied with the DGRs for the preparation of the EIS.

It is not sufficient to just have further discussions with the proponent outside the statutory process.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoffrey Turnbull', with a large, stylized initial 'G' and a long, sweeping underline.

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REDWatch is a residents and friends group covering Redfern Eveleigh Darlington and Waterloo (the same area historically covered by the Redfern Waterloo Authority). REDWatch monitors government activities and seeks to ensure community involvement in all decisions made about the area. More details can be found at www.redwatch.org.au.

The University acknowledges and supports the NSW State Government's commitment to strategic stakeholder participation.

A key aspect of the preparation of the CIP has been the consultation and engagement process involving the University community and broader stakeholders including State and Local Government and local residents. All feedback received through these processes has been reviewed and incorporated into the CIP to balance the University's operational requirements and relevant stakeholder interests. Details on the Inter-Government Agency consultation and the community engagement process are provided below:

10.1 INTER-GOVERNMENT AGENCY CONSULTATION

Between June and August 2013, CIS undertook a program of consulting the CIP program with the Government agencies listed in **Table 10** in order to identify key Government issues and relevant policies:

TABLE 10 – INTER GOVERNMENT AGENCY CONSULTATION ATTENDEES

Department of Planning & Infrastructure (DP&I)	Heritage Office of NSW
City of Sydney Council	UrbanGrowth NSW
Transport for NSW	Housing NSW
Roads and Maritime Services	Ausgrid
Heritage Office of NSW	Housing NSW
UrbanGrowth NSW	Destination NSW

The Government consultation program resulted in the DP&I convening a whole of Government agency workshop with the University to discuss a holistic Government approach and response to CIP. Details of this workshop and outcomes are addressed at **Appendix N**. This consultation program has provided the University with instrumental guidance and direction from Government agencies on their respective policy priorities, and which has guided the structure and contents of the CIP and in this Stage 1 SSDA.

Between August and October 2013, CIS has met regularly with the City of Sydney Council to discuss emerging precinct building envelopes for key areas, in particular the Merewether, City Road and Engineering precincts.

10.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The University has been engaging with the local community throughout 2013 on the Darlington Campus Abercrombie Redevelopment Project. This has resulted in meetings with key stakeholders and local community with the University providing regular communication regarding the development of the Business School, the Abercrombie Student Accommodation project and the Darlington Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Strategy. Details of these community stakeholders can be found at **Appendix N**.

Through this engagement the University has been able to identify the major issues of importance to the community in relation to the operations of the University.

These issues have all been considered and provided for in the development of the CIP through the following inclusions detailed in **Table 11**.

TABLE 11 – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION ISSUES RAISED AND CIP RESPONSE

ISSUE RAISED	CIP RESPONSE
Noise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of world class design excellence for all new buildings including acoustic containment. Buffer zones (no social events and provision of acoustic treatments) planned along residential streets that have a public interface with the University campus
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rationalisation of vehicle entry and parking Encouraging greater integration with public transport modes
Pedestrian movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a safe campus wide shared pedestrian and cycle network that also links to surrounding City of Sydney networks
Gateways/Invitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing strong and inviting campus gateway entrances and campus identity. Encourage welcoming and community access to and within the campus including facilities (libraries, sports, open space, retail)
Student Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peripheral car parking locations Pricing mechanisms not to discourage short stay parking and not to encourage short stay parking diversions to surrounding residential streets.
Open Space/Green Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes a Landscape, Planting and Public Art strategy
Safety and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security Management Strategy in and on periphery of the campus Adoption of CPTED principles On-site campus security
Community consultation and engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Consultation, Engagement and Communications Strategy developed

10.3 PROPOSED CONSULTATION STRATEGY

A Communications and Community Engagement Strategy detailed in **Table 12** has been developed that provides a robust framework for action during the lodgement and development assessment stages to the CIP.

In addition to the Stage 1 SSD public exhibition program that will be implemented by the DP&I, the University intends the following activities will be undertaken to ensure that adequate and appropriate consultation has been undertaken by the University and individuals and organisations that may have an interest in the CIP have an opportunity to express their views.

Consultation will continue as required, and the University will keep the community informed of the progress of the CIP through a range of communication tools including the Vice Chancellor's Column in the South Sydney Herald, the University's website, presentations, meetings and other appropriate mediums.

TABLE 12 – COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

NEWSLETTERS	Community newsletter dropped in Chippendale, Darlington, Glebe, Camperdown and Newtown
LOCAL NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING	City News, South Sydney Herald and The Sydney Morning Herald informing the community of the CIP and providing an officer contact name for enquiries and advising where to review the CIP and make submissions.
STAKEHOLDER DATABASE	A database of interested individuals and organisations will be established to ensure that these stakeholders are given timely information and advice and adequate notice of any consultation/engagement events
KEY STAKEHOLDER BRIEFINGS	One on one briefing for key stakeholders and Government agencies. Key Stakeholders are listed at Appendix N .
PERSONALISED CORRESPONDENCE	Letters to Federal and State Local Members and any other key stakeholders identified, advising them of the CIP
COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS	Drop in sessions to be organised over a variety of days and times including weekends and in the evenings and held at a number of accessible venues to provide the opportunity for interested individuals, groups and organisations to review the CIP materials and be able to have their questions answered directly by appropriate personnel.
WEBSITE	A dedicated CIP web page will be created on The University of Sydney website where the CIP and any other relevant advice and documentation will also be made available. Community organisations such as REDWatch will also be invited to upload the CIP documents on their websites.
CIP VIDEO	The CIP Video will be uploaded on the Website for viewing
3D ANIMATED COMPUTER MODELS	3D Animated computer models of the new builds, where available, will be uploaded on the website.
DEDICATED EMAIL ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE CONTACT	A dedicated email address and telephone number will be created to answer any questions and to receive feedback on the proposal
EMAIL UPDATES	Emails will be sent to the database on a regular basis during the public exhibition period to provide advice and to invite comment
FACT SHEET	Fact Sheet overview clearly stating the aims and objectives of the CIP, how the CIP was developed, the consultation process to date and how to make comment on the CIP. The Fact Sheet will appear on the website, be emailed to the data base and hard copies located at distribution points such as libraries, cafes, community centres etc.
FEEDBACK FORM	Feedback form for the community to provide comments efficiently. Will be available in hard copy and electronically.
DISPLAY MATERIALS	Development of display boards outlining the planning and approvals process to enable the CIP.
UOS STAFF NEWS AND STUDENT NEWS	Story and invitation to comment in University's Staff News

Government and Authority Consultation Feedback

Organisation	Comment
City of Sydney Council – Planning and Transport divisions	<p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Develop a City Road model for heights and envelopes. Integrate with St Michael’s approval. <p>Transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Create shared pedestrian and cycle areas – delineate through line-marking, speed limits and signage. Separate cycle lanes will encourage speed.
Transport for NSW	<p>CIP needs accompanying ‘Access Strategy’ incorporating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Transport access to and through campus, mode share targets, benchmarking▪ Parking strategy – type, location, rationale, pricing▪ Travel demand strategy (Green travel plan) – reduce private vehicle travel, increase modal spilt to public transport.
Department of Planning & Infrastructure (strategic)	<p>CIP responds strongly to the State Government <i>Eastern Sydney & Inner West Regional Action Plan</i> in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Regional Economic Growth – international education provider▪ Delivering Affordable Housing▪ Liveable & Sustainable Community▪ University Access Strategy - Efficient Transport modal split▪ Promote Cycle links – connect to Sydney Cycle Network▪ Improve local access to open space▪ Community use of campus facilities▪ Services/facilities for People with a Disability▪ Increasing Productivity - Cut Red Tape▪ Opportunity for greater University exposure in next Regional Action Plan.
Department of Planning & Infrastructure (urban assessments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Encourages a CIP strategic consultative approach – consistent with intent of review of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act▪ Importance of future Stage 1 Concept application to demonstrate how student accommodation is integrated with other uses and qualifies as “affordable”.

Whole of Government Authority Workshop Attendees and Feedback

Organisation	Comment
Heritage Office of NSW (servicing the Heritage Council of NSW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The University of Sydney is considered as one of the most significant heritage sites in Sydney▪ Requested Grounds Conservation CMP review▪ Support of HIS approach to all proposed precincts and sites for demolition▪ The spaces between the heritage buildings need to be included in the heritage management.▪ The potential impacts of new buildings on the Colleges needs to be addressed
Ausgrid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ University to address power sources to service future precincts
Planning and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Acknowledged the CIP will create conditions that support the Metro Strategy and will add capacity of the precinct to provide for Health and Education outcomes
City of Sydney	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Acknowledged that the CIP is working towards Sustainable Sydney 2030▪ Pedestrian and cycling upgrade works and Cycle routes are being coordinated with the University
Transport for NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Advised that they have provided direction regarding the development of the Access Strategy and advised that they will provide further guidance as the program develops
Roads and Maritime Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Concurred with Transport for NSW comments.

Community Stakeholders

Organisation	Members
Mandelbaum House	Sharna Kerlander - CEO Naomi Winton – COO David Levy - Chair
The Shepherd Centre	Jim Hungerford – CEO Simone Hodgson – Office Manager
Darlington Public School	Liz Sinnott – Principal Parents & Citizens Association
NSW Department of Education and Communities	Rod Megahey – Director Public Schools NSW – Marrickville Network Sue Shelley – Acting Director Public Schools – Marrickville Network
Residents Acting In Defence of Darlington (RAIDD)	Local Residents Mary Ellen McCue Colin Sharp Fran Crook Jenni Sams Jillian Bartlett Kyra Henderson John Berry Maurice Thibaux Rose Wagstaff
REDWatch	Geoff Turnbull – Spokesperson
Aboriginal Housing Company	Mick Mundine – CEO Lani Tuitavake – General Manager
The Boundary Lane Children’s Centre	Sene Gide – Director Susan Jamieson- Chair Board members

Key Stakeholders and Government Agencies

University of Sydney

Faculties and Schools
Professional Service Units
Retail Accord
Student Union

Government Agencies

City of Sydney Council
Heritage Office of NSW
NSW Police Local Area Commands (Redfern, Newtown and Leichardt)
Roads and Maritime Services
Transport for NSW
UrbanGrowth NSW

Neighbouring Organisations

Aboriginal Housing Company
Carriageworks
Darlington Public School
Mandelbaum House
Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital

Local Community Action Groups

REDWatch
Residents Acting in Defence of Darlington (RAIDD)



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Dr Michael Spence
Vice-Chancellor and Principal

28 February 2014

Mr Geoff Turnbull
E: mail@redwatch.org.au

Dear Mr Turnbull

University of Sydney Stage 1 Concept Campus Improvement Program 2014-2020 – Camperdown Darlington Campus – SSD 13_6123 – Extension of the University of Sydney's Consultation period to 31 March 2014.

The University of Sydney has undertaken further action in response to community requests regarding an extension to the consultation period for the Campus Improvement Program (CIP).

The NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I) had advised the University that the statutory public exhibition period would conclude on 28 February 2014.

The University is, however, prepared to extend our exhibition and consultation period until 31 March 2014 to enable the local community to gain further information and advice on which to base comments on the CIP. This will enable the University to respond to all comments and ideas received during the University's extended exhibition period in addition to the submissions that it has received from the DP&I through the statutory exhibition period. The University has advised the DP&I of our intention to continue to work with the community for this extended period.

To assist community members with understanding the CIP we will be providing three more community information sessions which we would encourage you to take advantage of where you can speak with the CIP team members. These information sessions will be held in the foyer of the Services Building (G12), 22 Codrington Street, Darlington on:

- Wednesday 12 March, 5-7pm
- Wednesday 19 March, 5-7 pm
- Saturday 22 March, 11 am –1 pm

In addition, a printed copy of the proposal and display panels of the major proposals for public viewing will remain in the foyer of the Services Building G12, from Monday-Friday 9am-5pm until 31 March, 2014.

The proposal can also continue to be viewed online by visiting
http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=6123

We hope that the three additional information sessions and extended time frame will be of assistance. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Michael Spence
Vice Chancellor and Principal