

**City of Sydney**

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8 June 2011

Our Ref: 2011/152834

File No: R/2009/3/A

Your Ref: MP 09\_0051 MOD 1

Director – Metropolitan & Regional Projects South  
Department of Planning  
GPO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Mark Brown

Dear Mark,

**RE Section 75W - Centre for Obesity, Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease (CODCD) (MP 09\_0051 MOD 1)**

I refer to your letter of 25 May 2011 about the above mentioned application.

The City supports the reduction in the height of the building but is concerned about other design changes, in particular the increased building footprint towards the western / St John's College boundary and the resultant impacts on St John's College. The issues are discussed below.

**Impact on St John's College**

St John's College is a significant heritage item. It is the grandest university college complex in NSW and the main building, designed by William Wardell and Edmund Blacket, is one of the best examples of Gothic Revival Architecture in Australia. St John's is also the second oldest university college in Australia and has been in continuous occupation since 1863. In addition to its architectural significance, the college grounds have historically provided an impressive and important landscape setting for St John's. The grounds allow distant views to and through the site, particularly from Parramatta Road.

In previous correspondence to the Department about the concept plan and more recently the project application, the City has highlighted the importance of maintaining an appropriate curtilage around St John's College and its grounds to preserve the heritage significance of this important site.

While the City supports the establishment of a world class medical and educational facility on the grounds of Sydney University, it is considered that the scale and siting of the approved CODCD building will result in adverse and irreversible impacts on the heritage integrity and setting of St John's College. A number of the modifications are considered to worsen those impacts.

*city of villages*

The footprint of the CODCD building is proposed to be relocated about 10 metres closer to the western property boundary shared with St John's. The Environmental Assessment does not explain why the building footprint has been extended in this location. The Heritage Impact Statement is silent on the modification. In addition to impacts on St John's, this modification is also considered to impact on the setting of the heritage-listed RPA buildings to the south.

Should any extension of the building footprint be required in order to reduce heritage impacts, it is considered that those extensions should be accommodated at the northern end of the building.

If you would like to speak to a Council officer about this application, please contact Silvia Correia on 9246 7598 or [scorreia@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:scorreia@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GJahn', written in a cursive style.

Graham Jahn LFRAIA Hon AIA Hon FPIA Hon FNZIA  
**Director City Planning and Regulatory Services**