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11/01/2025

MS Jennifer Leete
5 / 32 Undercliff Road ST
Freshwater NSW 2096
[REDACTED]

RE: DA2023/0998 - 9999 The Esplanade FRESHWATER NSW 2096

I write to oppose the application DA2023/0998. I regard it, even in amended form, as a massive overdevelopment of the site which creates major drawbacks for the Freshwater community. Not the least of these is compromising the heritage style of the existing building which has historical significance to the community of Freshwater.

The application has to be seen as a change to a community facility which is located on public space and therefore belongs to the community. It is not a private, profit making company but exists for the community's benefit. In my view the current proposal does nothing at all to enhance facilities available to the community. It is rather, an attempt to create an income stream based on commercial use. As other submissions have noted, past experience with such schemes in Northern Beaches Surf clubs have not even achieved that aim, let alone enhancing public facilities.

Freshwater most definitely does not need more restaurants and cafes. Further, this beachfront location is already very congested especially in summertime. This applies especially to parking areas and the heavily utilised grassed areas surrounding the surf club and beach.

Matters raised in the confidential submission dated 19th November 2023 regarding the appropriate use of public land and potential conflicts of interest for the Council need to be carefully considered and addressed to the community's satisfaction.

In my view not a single dollar of public money should be spent on this proposal particularly in the light of Councils current consultation on a proposal for a special variation to rates.