02/09/2024

MRS CHRISTINE BORG 48 BEACONSFIELD ST NEWPORT NSW 2106

RE: DA2021/2173 - 394 Barrenjoey Road NEWPORT NSW 2106

As a Long Service patrolling member at Newport SLSC I disagree with the SNPP's refusal of the Newport SLSC's Club Renovations DA and support the Newport Surf Life Saving Club's proposed Clubhouse renovations for the following reasons:

- The proposed amendments to the Main Gear Shed access and eastern / northern concourse changes will not adversely impact NSLSC's operations and provide additional mitigation measures to protect the existing and new portions of the building in the event of a major future storm event.

- NBC, as the elected Council, has fully supported and sponsored the Newport SLSC's Club Renovations DA on behalf of the wider community and the surf club. As a local resident/community member, I object to the SNPP usurping the Council's responsibility to reasonably maintain a critical emergency services facility and an important community asset.

- The decision to deny the Council the ability to install coastal protection works in front of the existing heritage-listed Newport SLSC Clubhouse will result in the ultimate potential destruction of this vital community asset and the traditional home of the Newport Surf Club since the 1930s.

- The SNPP's proposition that the Clubhouse can be relocated to another location is illfounded and not based on sound technical or engineering facts. The reports prepared by the Council's expert consultants as part of the DA review package clearly demonstrate that any such relocation of the Club's facilities faces significant constraints due to a range of environmental and physical constraints, not to mention the potential loss of public parkland or parking resulting from a relocated building footprint.

- The SNP's proposition that the Clubhouse can be relocated to another location is devoid of common sense and creates a dangerous precedent for the beachgoing public.

- Any relocation of the existing Clubhouse (even if feasible) would severely hinder the Newport Surf Club's ability to undertake its emergency services operations. Beach safety surveillance and the Club's ability to rapidly deploy emergency rescue craft during a rescue event would be dangerously compromised.

- Due the age and haphazardly planned nature of the current building, several pedestrian and user conflicts have evolved, creating a range of work health & safety risks to the Club's members and the public. The proposed renovation and rationalisation of the Club's facilities create the opportunity to adequately address WHS issues associated with the ageing building and bring it into line with current-day compliance and safety standards.

- The Newport Surf Life Saving Club undertakes an extremely valuable service to the local community. It deserves contemporary, safe, and compliant facilities commensurate with its contribution to and its standing within the local community. The existing clubhouse has evolved organically over the last 90-odd years without a rational master plan. This has resulted in the current building being dysfunctional and inefficient in several areas and this restricts and often hampers the Club's operations.

Parts of the existing building are dilapidated, dysfunctional and in urgent need of repair.