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03/10/2024

MISS Caitlin Hancock
107 Whale Beach RD
Avalon Beach NSW 2107

RE: DA2024/1091 - 5 / 1 Careel Head Road AVALON BEACH NSW 2107

Whilst the maximum height of the proposed development (two storeys) is definitely welcomed, the proposed usage is not. The proposal of a battleship below a childcare centre is grossly inappropriate, a sentiment echoed throughout the local community. Furthermore, there are already two bottle shops in Avalon (a mere 5 minutes drive from the proposed development) as well as a local independent bottle shop in North Avalon, just one minute away, and another one in palm beach, just 10 minutes away. We are spoilt for choice of bottle shops and a large chain one like proposed is not in keeping with the community's needs, wants, not spirit.

Furthermore, there are long established and much loved businesses currently operating in the existing space. Oliver's Pies is famous for their delicious pies, and brings much needed options and income to the shops from the sports fields across the road, as well as tradies from further north the peninsula who travel at lunch to get their fix. Cranzgots pizza is another long established business who is loved by locals and tourists alike! Their pizza is delicious and their community focussed vibe is much enjoyed. They support local artists with their live music each week, and are the only pizza place that will deliver to many of the residents who live on whale beach road, and whale/palm beach who have steep driveways. It's not feasible to always go driving to pick up dinner, and when Uber eats refuse to deliver, they are a godsend.

Losing both these much needed businesses, along with the independent gym and the burger/chips shops at careel bay shops, only to replace them with an unwanted and not at all needed bottle shop would be a travesty: a loss for the communities spirit, detrimental to the convenience and wellbeing of the community, and devastating to the business owners who are currently thriving in a difficult commercial landscape. I'm disappointed in Northern Beaches Council for even considering a large corporation to open a store when they should be supporting local!