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**From:** DYPXCPWEB@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au  
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**Subject:** Online Submission

16/01/2023

MR Douglas Menzies  
3 / 10 Kalinya ST  
Newport NSW 2106

**RE: REV2022/0024 - 394 Barrenjoey Road NEWPORT NSW 2106**

I do not agree with the SNPP's refusal of the NSLSC's Club Renovations DA and support the Newport Surf Life Saving Club's proposed Club House extensions for the following reasons:

- NBC as the elected Council has fully supported and sponsored the NSLSC's Club Renovations DA on behalf of the wider Community and the Surf Club. As a local resident / community member we object to the SNPP usurping the Council's responsibility to reasonably maintain critical community assets;
- The decision to deny the Council the ability to install coastal protection works in front of the existing Heritage listed NSLSC Clubhouse will result in the ultimate potential destruction of this important Community asset and the traditional home of the Newport Surf Club since the 1930s;
- The DA proposal incorporates important Coast Engineering protection measures for the existing Clubhouse which must be undertaken as a priority to avoid the potential for significant damage or the possible destruction of our Clubhouse due to a significant storm event. These coast protection works essential to Maintain public safety and are required regardless of whether the Clubhouse is extended and should be undertaken as soon as practically possible;
- The SNPP's proposition that the Clubhouse can be relocated to another location is ill founded and not based on sound technical or engineering facts. The Reports prepared by Council's expert consultants as part of the DA review package clearly demonstrates that any such relocation of the Club's facilities simply cannot be accommodated 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.
- The suggestion of moving the surf club facility further away from the beach creates an increase in traffic movements of surf club equipment and vehicles through densely people populated areas where the public are undertaking recreation, they will not be looking for potential risks when they are using the space between the beach and an area that the proposed club might be located.
- Any relocation of the Existing Clubhouse (even if it were 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 emergence rescue craft during a rescue event would be dangerously compromised;
- Any relocation of the Public Amenities and Change Rooms which form part of the Clubhouse complex away from their logical beachside location would create further safety and inconvenience issues for the beach going public. Imagine young kids or elderly / disabled citizens having to traverse a busy carpark to gain extended access to remotely located amenities.

- Due to its age and haphazardly planned nature, there are several pedestrian and user conflicts which have evolved which create a range of Work Health & Safety issues which are a health and safety risk to the Club's members and the public. The proposed expansion and rationalisation of the Club's facilities creates 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 existing clubhouse building is not DDA compliant. Many areas within the existing building are not accessible due to floor level changes which prohibit equitable access. Additionally the existing lift access to the building is very poorly located, and the Club / Council have had ongoing issues with the existing Lift's operation and maintenance. The proposed expansion and rationalisation of the Club's facilities creates the opportunity to adequately address non-compliant disabled and equitable access aspects of the existing Clubhouse and bring the building up to modern-day accessibility compliance 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 & this restricts & often hampers the Club's operations;
- The Existing Clubhouse is used for a variety of community, and broader SLS Branch uses in addition to servicing the Club's Life-Saving needs. The inability of the existing building cater for a number of different activities at any one time severely restricts the operations of the Club and other community / SLS Branch groups wishing to utilise the Clubhouse;
- The proposed Clubhouse extensions will provide the following benefits:
  - o Extra desperately needed storage facilitated for Surf Life Saving Patrol uses, SLS Training purposes and SLS Competition purposes;
  - o Upgrade storage and general Clubhouse facilities to bring them into line with current WH&S standards and to address current Beachgoer and Club operation pedestrian conflict points;
  - o Improved and upgraded 1st Aid Room and Council Lifeguard facilities;
  - o Improved facilities for the Club's Nippers programme which caters for between 350 and 400 Nippers and their families each year;
  - o Improved training facilities for the Club's Bronze Medallion and Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC) training programmed which caters for the training of between 50 - 100 Bronze Medallion and SRC trainees each year;
  - o Improved disabled access and lift provisions to cater for disabled and non-ambulant patrons and visitors (including the removal of internal floor level changes which currently restrict the use of the terrace for non-ambulant patrons);
  - o Improved public amenities facilities with increased female facilities for both Public and Club patrons
  - o Improved Club Entry arrangement which reinstates the original Clubhouse's main entry and circulation spine at the existing main Clubhouse entry;
  - o Improved Hall and Club room spaces which enables areas to be utilised concurrently and which opens up more areas of the Clubhouse for potential wider community uses;
  - o The creation of a landscaped forecourt area to the main clubhouse entry which provides the opportunity for a much needed Newport Youth Space initiative within Bert Payne Park currently being reviewed by Council.

The Northern Beaches Council and NSLSC's Club Executive and Building Committees strongly endorse the Club's modest plans to upgrade and rationalise its existing Clubhouse facilities and this submission endorses Council's efforts to successfully overturn the flawed SNPP decision to refuse the Club's DA so that the Club and the wider Community can realise and benefit from these plans as soon as practically possible.

