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18/02/2021

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RE: DA2020/1758 - 11 Lewis Street BALGOWLAH HEIGHTS NSW 2093

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I am writing to object in the strongest terms to the proposed construction of a childcare centre at 11 Lewis St, Balgowlah Heights.

As a local resident and grandmother of a pupil I am aware of the number of children who use the footpath to walk and ride bikes, scooters etc to and from Balgowlah Heights Public School adjoining the proposed development site. I'm very concerned that their safety and health will be put at risk by the addition of a commercial building next to the school given the traffic, exhaust fumes and disruption that will accompany it.

The congestion during the mornings and afternoons is already evident and my fear is that to introduce further traffic would make an accident inevitable, particularly as the vehicles entering and exiting the childcare centre will be driving directly across the footpath. The atmosphere is frenetic during these times and children are often unaware of the traffic around them so safety is not uppermost in their minds. It's essential that we ensure there are no added unnecessary risks to their journey to and from school and that their absolute safety be the first priority.

It's my understanding that places in childcare centres in the area are available and not in short supply so an additional centre is unnecessary. This is a huge overdevelopment with an enormous footprint, being non-compliant with Floor Space Ratio planning objectives and overshadowing the school among other critical safety and compliance issues, and I fail to see why it would be considered in a low-density residential area.

There is also no mention of an asbestos management plan in the documents which is of huge concern given the existing house was built prior to 1990.

I sincerely hope that the council will not support this development in any form. Yours sincerely, Sally Tomlinson Balgowlah Heights resident