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16/01/2023

MR Peter Rolston
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[REDACTED]

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

I strongly support the Newport SLSC's submission to have the club house upgraded for the future.

The current building is beautiful, but has significant issues that are affecting the member's ability to adequately perform their duties as lifesavers for the local community and visiting tourists to the beach, and for safety reasons.

The building is ageing, and we are constantly having problems with plumbing issues, electrical issues, tiles falling off walls, tiles coming up off floors. These issues are addressed as quickly as possible, however it is just a matter of time before an accident occurs, with the building in its current state of disrepair. This DA application looks to update and fix all these issues.

The current storage areas are inadequate for the storage of the equipment that makes up a well functioning Surfclub. The new rework addresses this issue.

The first aid room is appallingly inadequate to provide triage support for any people requiring assistance. It has to function as many things other than first aid, as we don't have adequate space elsewhere for things such as storage of radios, log books, spare oxygen tanks etc. Again, these shortcomings are addressed by this DA.

The change rooms, showers, and toilets - both public and for members, are woefully inadequate for the number of members - around 1,000, and the number of public that use the beach throughout the season. The facilities were built at a time when there were very few women members - the current membership is very close to a 50/50 split - this is not at all reflected in the change rooms - there are frequently too many woman to fit in the change room. Again, this is addressed in the DA submission.

The upstairs area needs significant work to enable the club to have functions that can support the membership. As a charity, we have to raise funds, and we are severely hampered by our inability to attract sponsors, and activities because of the state of disrepair of the building.

The Surfclub is a focal point for the local community. The DA looks to reflect the importance of this structure to our community, and provide appropriate support for all those who choose to visit our beautiful beach.