

## **Nina Robinson**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 9 December 2024 5:12 PM  
**To:** Planning Panels Mailbox  
**Subject:** Land and Environment Court Proceedings No. 2023/109048 (DA2021/2173) - Written Submission Supporting Approval of Application for alterations and additions and coastal protection works to Newport Surf Life Saving Club

**Attention: Planning Panel Secretariat / Northern Beaches Council Development Assessment Team**

**RE: Land and Environment Court Proceedings No. 2023/109048 (DA2021/2173) – Written Submission Supporting Approval of Application for alterations and additions and coastal protection works to Newport Surf Life Saving Club**

Dear Secretariat / Development Assessment Team

I have lived in Newport for almost 30 years and have been a lifesaver for 20 of those.

The proposed plans provide a significant upgrade in a way that supports the growth of the Club, improves its utility and preserves the heritage look and feel. The improved hall and club room spaces enable areas to be utilised concurrently and open up more clubhouse areas for potential wider community use. The coastal engineering protection measures ensure the Club will be safeguarded and operations can continue in the event of a significant storm event. This new Club will become a centrepiece for the Newport community where all will be welcome, safe and enjoy the view of our spectacular beach.

Newport SLSC is one of the State's most successful Surf Lifesaving Clubs in terms of Lifesaving Services and competition. It has seen phenomenal and sustained growth over the last 5-10 years, which has resulted in the Club outgrowing its existing facilities. It is in desperate need of additional storage for Surf Lifesaving Patrol uses, SLS Training purposes, and SLS Competition purposes. Upgraded storage and general Clubhouse facilities will align with current WH&S standards and address current Beachgoer and Club operation pedestrian conflict points.

The club is in the best position it can be in. It is situated in front of the safest part of the beach to swim and where residents and visitors will exit the village to enter the beach. This position is also outside the typical flood zone when heavy rain falls.

Those who oppose this location offer no suitable alternative that does not put lives at risk. Those who oppose the coastal protection measures ignore the need to protect the club and the valuable infrastructure behind it: the basketball court, the children's playground, and the main road to Avalon and beyond. If you don't protect the club, where will we draw the line?

This location provides the ideal platform to view the beach during normal patrol operational times and outside these times. In my term as president, from 2019 to 2022, 6 lives were saved outside our official operational patrolling times by members carrying out activities around the club. Four were children.

There are many things to consider; however, I urge the panel to put our children's lives at the top of that list. Your decision here may well make the difference between life and death.

I support the Newport Surf Life Saving Club's proposed Clubhouse extensions. They offer a significant upgrade to an aging club that needs repair and cannot cope with the growing demands of the Surf Club or the Newport Community.

The development plans offer an excellent solution to these issues while maintaining the club's heritage appeal.

Regards,

*Glen*