



Greenwich Community Association Inc

PO Box 5057, Greenwich, NSW 2065

For current committee contact details see www.greenwich.org.au

5 January 2018

The General Manager
Lane Cove Council
PO Box 20
LANE COVE NSW 1595

Dear Sir

St Leonards South – SU5945

Objection to St Leonards South Master Plan (also referred to by Council as St Leonards South Residential Precinct)

The Greenwich Community Association (GCA) is an incorporated association that has represented the Greenwich community since 1944. It holds at least 6 general meetings a year and distributes bi-monthly newsletters to over 2000 Greenwich households.

An object of the Association is “to do all things possible to further the interests of Greenwich and the Local Government Area of Lane Cove and to maintain and enhance the amenity of all residents and owners of property in Greenwich”.

The Greenwich community is devastated that Council is contemplating approval of a development plan that has the potential to destroy the amenity of not only Greenwich but the other communities across the local government areas that form the St Leonards /Crows Nest precinct.

The GCA is perplexed that Council has worked to develop this plan since at least 2012 without active engagement with the GCA and the Greenwich community generally, given that, on any measure, the Greenwich community was clearly going to be impacted by the proposed re-zoning for the high density residential development that will effectively double the population of Greenwich and environs.

The GCA seeks to further the interests of **both Greenwich and Lane Cove** generally but it is, sadly, now apparent that, for some years, Council has chosen to place the interests of a small and no longer resident cohort of St Leonards South property owners ahead of the interests of the majority of Greenwich residents and owners of property.

As was stated recently by a Council officer, Greenwich will do the “heavy lifting” in terms of high density housing if this development goes ahead. This “heavy lifting” is being expected of a community that knew nothing of the proposal from 2012- early 2015, was given just cursory “comment” rights prior to a July 2015 Council meeting in which public comment was ignored by Councillors set on a desired outcome and has now been given from 1 / 2 December 2017 to 5 January 2018 to make informed comment on the Plan.

We are now required, with an inappropriately short time frame that does not meet the requirements of the Department of Planning and, at the worst time of the year, to make comment on a proposal that has been workshopped in great detail with the winners in this process since 2012.

We have found and still find it extremely difficult to source the information and reports needed to make" informed comment " on the Plan in terms of Section 5.5.2 *Guide to Preparing LEPs (Department of Planning and Infrastructure 2013)*. Council's website lacks vital information, Council officers are reluctant to provide information when it is sought and the closure of Council offices from midday 22 December 2017 to 2 January 2018 made it impossible to secure assistance.

The GCA wrote to Council on 1 January 2018 (attached) raising its concerns in terms of the above issues and seeking cancellation of the current round of Community Consultation on the grounds that Council has failed to comply with Section 5.5.2 of the *Guide to Preparing LEPs (Department of Planning and Infrastructure 2013)*.

We remain of the view that this Community Consultation is invalid for the reasons outlined in our letter of 1 January 2018 and reserve the right to make additional submissions in the hope that further information relevant to the Plan will be made available by Council or other parties.

We also note the verbal advice of Mr Michael Mason in the November 2017 Council meeting that Council will accept submissions from the GCA after the 5 January 2018 deadline.

Please find attached our objection.

Please find attached also request for public hearing.

Acknowledgement of this document and attachments is requested.

Yours faithfully



Merri Southwood
President
Greenwich Community Association
0412 361331
southwood@bigpond.com

cc Mayor and Councillors, Lane Cove Council