

To the Independent Planning Commission NSW

Planet X is a housing co-operative with 14 residents located in Chippendale and Marrickville.   
  
Twelve of our residents live in Chippendale, and many of us have cultural, artistic and campaign projects we carry out in Redfern. Many of us have friends we visit regularly in Redfern. Most of us identify as lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, intersex or queer and appreciate the safety and diversity of the inner city.

We all appreciate Redfern as a suburb dominated by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and culture. Some of us have lived and worked in and around Redfern for thirty years.

So we are very concerned about the latest version of the Pemulway Project being proposed by the Aboriginal Housing Corporation.

The project does not guarantee affordable Aboriginal housing. The proposed development will contain more than 20 stories of expensive student accommodation.

But the Aboriginal Housing Corporation is not intending to build the 62 affordable Aboriginal homes it promised in 2015 to construct. As outlined by the article in the Sydney Morning Herald [‘'None of this is right': Development plans spark fury at The Block’](https://www.smh.com.au/national/none-of-this-is-right-development-plans-spark-fury-at-the-block-20181113-p50ftw.html)   
  
Planet X thinks this is an attempt to gentrify Redfern and surrounding suburbs. We have noted that many Aboriginal families have already been sent out to more isolated western suburbs that contain fewer services. We note the resistance to the project led by the Aboriginal community. Planet X offered our support and solidarity to this campaign in 2015.

As poorer LGBTIQ people living in housing co-operative in the inner city, we are very aware of the high cost of housing and the corporatisation of housing in the inner city underway.

We are acutely aware of the sell-off of housing co-operative *The Compound* at Millers Point and other public homes in the area. We are examining the sell-off, of public homes in Glebe. We are opposing the public housing tower sell-offs in the Redfern-Waterloo area.

Government policies have made Aboriginal communities more economically disadvantaged than non-Indigenous communities. We need more affordable housing for Aboriginal communities, not less.

This AHC project is an affront to public housing, and affordable housing advocates and Planet X is totally opposed.

Please note our opposition to this project. Affordable Aboriginal housing should be the priority in Redfern, not expensive student accommodation.