Director, Sydney Central Urban Renewal

Department of Planning and Environment

GPO Box 39 Sydney 2001

**CROWS NEST AND ST LEONARDS DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL**

I am sure you must be aware of the unique sense of community and history existing in this “oasis suburb”, in sight of (and within walking distance) one the most iconic cities in the world. My impression is that the Council has been progressive in maintaining this community, by upgrading and maintaining the pleasant bushwalks, the historic Greenwich Baths, Parks, footpaths, even working closely with Viva Energy to preserve the “working port” heritage that has slowly but surely being pushed into history and being replaced by ugly and inappropriate residential development in other parts of the “Harbour City”. For that I am most grateful and appreciative. Well done Council!

Now the big BUT!  **BUT all that good work and community building will amount to a charade if this draft St. Leonards Master Plan rezoning goes ahead on its present trajectory**. This redevelopment, in the presentation so far, will irreversibly CHANGE the Greenwich community and its historical significance in at least the following ways.

Increased and unresolvable traffic congestion, particularly access to the narrow River Road and Pacific Highway with regard to added obstruction for emergency service to Royal North Shore Hospital. Road infrastructure requirements comparable with that of the new Northern Beaches Hospital not addressed in this development.

Dramatically increased population in Greenwich, with the associated safety issues in pedestrian traffic across the Pacific Highway and River Road.

The local shopping centre (just recently upgraded by Council and done well) to include pleasant and popular outdoor has very limited parking.

Greenwich Public School will not be able to cope with the increased population in its present form.

Infrastructure problems such as sewerage, water, storm water runoff into the harbour will be exacerbated. Garbage collection and disposal problems for the increased population. Artarmon transfer station is bulging and stinking on pickup days.

Open space will be at a premium.

Increased pressure on aged care and hospital facilities.

John Spry (ratepayer and resident) 112 Greenwich Road, Greenwich.