



David Shoebridge MLC
Member of the NSW Legislative Council

**The Greens NSW
Submission
18 December 2014**

The General Manager
Sutherland Shire Council
Locked Bag 17
SUTHERLAND NSW 1499
by email ssc@ssc.nsw.gov.au

**Re: DA14/1238 to clear and develop the former Scout land and
DA14/1239 to clear the Sussex St unmade road reserve bushland for an asset protection zone.**

Dear General Manager,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the proposed DAs for the former scout land at Bundeena being DA14/1238 and DA14/1239.

My office has received a large amount of correspondence from concerned residents about the proposed development, and I have also visited the site myself to assess the likely impact of such a proposal.

Among the major concerns identified with the proposals are the following:

- Impacts on adjoining land, including the Royal National Park created by large scale land clearing creating substantial destabilisation risks, particularly on steep areas of the site, erosion concerns, disturbance of groundwater movements, increased silt in surrounding waterways, and spread of weeds. There are also concerns that the clearing will impact on the visual amenity of the Royal National Park, particularly the entrance to the Coast Track.
- The proposed vegetation removal will substantially affect the ecological communities on the site and degrade the riparian corridor including habitat of the eastern pygmy possum, sugar glider and ringtail possums.
- Likely inadequate parking with anticipated impact on bushwalkers using the Coast Track among others.
- Serious inconsistencies between the ecological report and the bushfire report including the failure to identify a large number of endangered ecological communities on the site. I understand submissions by the National Parks Association and the Spring Gully Protection Group outline in detail the concerns about these reports.
- The subject land is identified by Sutherland Shire Council as being in an Aboriginal heritage sensitive area but sufficient analysis has not been undertaken to assess if there are sites of significant Aboriginal Heritage on the site. At a bare minimum additional consultation with the land council should form a core part of the DA consideration process.



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It is my contention, and that of many of those who have contacted my office that the site should be considered for inclusion in the Royal National Park. It is understood that Council has already resolved to transfer the adjoining land to the NPWS for this exact purpose. It would be entirely appropriate for Council to seek support from the State Government for such a move.

Given the above concerns there are strong grounds on which to reject both DAs, as well as consistent community support for such a rejection.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed developments, if you have any questions or require further information please don't hesitate to contact our office on 9230 3030 or at david.shoebriidge@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Shoebridge', written in a cursive style.

David Shoebridge
Greens NSW MP
Spokesperson for Planning