



## Re: Parramatta North Potential State Significant Site

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Parramatta North Potential State Significant Site. This is a site of national heritage significance for both its Aboriginal and Colonial past.

Concerns have been raised with my office about the fact that announcements made by Premier Baird to date have indicated the Government is committed to proceeding with these plans, potentially regardless of the outcome of the consultation.

We have had a number of substantial concerns raised with the office about the proposal, most of which point to perceptions that the project will lead to an out of scale overdevelopment of the area with high rise of up to 52 storeys dominating the skyline and disturbing the visual amenity of the important heritage precinct.

There are also real concerns that the focus on increased density and commercial opportunity in the plan will have the unintended consequence of increased social dislocation and the creation of substantial traffic problems.

While the respectful adaptive reuse of heritage buildings is considered desirable this has not been the focus of this proposal. The fact that the plan does not propose to invest in the site to produce a public World Heritage listed precinct like the small Hobart Female Factory and Port Arthur is an oversight that should urgently be rectified.

The following additional issues should also be considered further if the proposal is to proceed:

1. The NSW and Commonwealth Governments must guarantee support for the Parramatta Female Factory's National and World Heritage Listing and properly funding a public trust to safeguard the site's heritage significance. No development can be allowed to compromise the ability of the Parramatta Female Factory Precinct (including the Parramatta Female Factory, Roman Catholic Orphan School, Gaol and Kambala) to gain National and World Heritage listing status.
3. The adaptive re-use of heritage site buildings be in full consultation with the community and relevant interest groups including Historic Houses and the National Trust as well as those involved in the project's preliminary consultative "charrettes".
4. Changes should be made to ensure that the zonings do not permit any buildings in excess of 10 storeys high. This would ensure that the redevelopment does not overwhelm the surrounding heritage buildings and precinct.



David Shoebridge MLC  
Member of the NSW Legislative Council

**The Greens NSW  
Submission  
19 December 2014**

5. The proposed 'sensitive infill' 6 storey building between the Female Factory and the Orphanage currently blocks the sight line between the two, this must not be allowed. A commemorative community garden is considered an acceptable alternative by many in the local community.
6. Aboriginal heritage values must be fully protected under the plan in accordance with the recommendations of the Aboriginal Heritage report. This must be resolved before the proposal is progressed further.
7. The proposal to relocate the swimming centre complex should be rejected in favour of an on-site upgrade with surrounding building heights significantly reduced, especially on the northern side of the pool.
8. Currently public land should remain in public hands and the government should invest in this project as a great heritage/history tourism and residential project with good provision for affordable public housing.
9. Provision must be made for significantly improved public transport for the area including a light rail network and dedicated cycle ways, and heritage building restoration and enhancement must be early priorities of the project.
10. Provision needs to be made for a larger public school and other community services nearby.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed State Significant Site, if you have any questions or require further information please don't hesitate to contact our office on 9230 3030 or at [david.shoebidge@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:david.shoebidge@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