

## FEEDBACK ON PEMULWUY PROJECT

### Greens NSW Submission

9 June 2017

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Aboriginal Housing Company's (AHC) Pemulwuy Project, Redfern. The Greens have a number of concerns about the proposed development and urge the AHC to consider the repercussions that the current proposal would inflict on the community of Redfern.

Of particular concern is the updated proposal to increase the student housing to 23 storeys. The original plans have been repeatedly stretched out, with the plan originally proposing 6 stories and then a further 16 stories. This seems both excessive and unnecessary.

Given the significance of the area, the plans being proposed on this site need to consider its listing as a conservation area under by the NSW Government Office of Environment & Heritage as the 'Darlington Heritage Conservation Area'. The scale of the proposed development not only risks destroying the character and aesthetic authenticity of the area but would also overwhelm the surrounding terrace houses.

The Greens respect the deep significance of to the community, culture and lives of Aboriginal people in Redfern. The Block has always been an important hub for the Aboriginal community as it marks the significance of the continuous struggle and the ongoing activism for Aboriginal justice. The area facilitates a unique and significant cultural identity for the community. This significance must be taken into account and respected.

The proposed development is occurring on land that has always been dedicated to Aboriginal people to ensure access to affordable housing. The AHC was founded on the basis of ensuring this area remains a place that facilitates for low-income housing for the Aboriginal community. Despite claims that these plans will allow for Aboriginal housing in the future there appears to be little effort made to ensure the maximum amount of Aboriginal residents are accommodated at the site.

Under the current proposal 522 housing units would be dedicated to student accommodation and a mere 63 housing units would be dedicated to affordable Aboriginal housing. The disparity in this ratio is alarming. There is no doubt that this will contribute to the already hastily growing figure of Aboriginal people being displaced due to pressures of development and gentrification in Redfern.

The Greens firmly believe that the focus of this development must be Aboriginal housing for the Aboriginal community and urge the AHC to reconsider their current plans to ensure this.

Regards,



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Spokesperson for Planning



Jenny Leong  
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Member for Newtown