I currently reside on Canberra Avenue in St Leonards with my family; including my husband and two young children aged under 4. I am aghast at the proposal to rezone this area and replace it with high density apartment buildings. This will lead to significant congestion and environmental degradation.

TRAFFIC

As is, joining River Road from Duntroon Avenue is highly problematic in peak hour. The junction is dangerous and accident prone. Additionally Duntroon Avenue is an UNSAFE thoroughfare. The width of the road is barely adequate to allow to vehicles to pass by each other in opposite directions, especially at night when there are parked cars and visibility is atrocious. There is NO circumstance in which situating high density towers and an additional 4000 residents in this area won’t cause SERIOUS SAFETY risks to the local community.

Turning onto pacific highway from Berry road in peak hour in either direction is highly risky with significant confusion between drivers turning out of Royal North Shore Hospital. The length of time the signal allows to execute this turn, whilst waiting for pedestrians to cross, and oncoming traffic from the hospital, INADEQUATE. It will be near impossible to join the arterial in the morning peak hour if an additional 4000 people reside in this area with the problems of overcrowding that this will bring.

SCHOOLS

Despite the improvement in Greenwich Public school facilities, it will be significantly disadvantaged by the burden of accommodating the learning needs of significantly increased local resident numbers. I fear for the quality of the education and individual attention my children will receive when they enrol at these facilities. It is wholly IRRESPONSIBLE to flood the area with more residents with no consideration given to the educational infrastructure needs of the local community.

OPEN SPACE and GREENERY

There is an abundance of tall, old growth established trees on the existing properties and a beautiful green canopy visible from the upper floors of every dwelling on the street. It would be a travesty to see these pulled down to make way for soulless cookie cutter apartment stock that is already a blight on the Sydney landscape. There is no justification for the desecration of our environment in the name of uncurbed population growth and overdevelopment.

Lane cove council and the state government should put an immediate halt to the rezoning of this land. It is at best suitable for medium density town house style development, and should be preserved for future generations to enjoy as is.