

From: [REDACTED]
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: OBJECTION to SCEGGS Darlinghurst Concept and stage one SSD8993
Date: Tuesday, 21 April 2020 12:21:40 PM

Dear Members of the Independent Planning Commission,

I wish to submit my opposition to the planned development put forward by SCEGGS.

I am a resident of [REDACTED] and my daughter attended the school. SCEGGS are great educators however they are very poor property developers, and over the years I have watched with dismay the bad decisions they have agreed to proposed by architects they have hired with no regard to the local amenity and needs of the School. The junior school structure on Bourke Street is a case in point with the demolition of a row of Victorian terraces replaced by a west facing playground and classrooms that are almost unusable in the hot months.

The current proposals again show disregard to the historic fabric of the area and its streetscape as well as blatant disregard for the surrounding residents' light and views.

The proposed demolition of Wilkinson House, shows typical lack of imagination on the part of the architect, who should be made to repurpose the rare surviving structure by Emil Sodersten, rather than replacing it with a, beyond mediocre and ugly, building by the current project architect- a building that is comparable to the execrable 1970s block facing down Stanley Street that the school is planning to remove. This is typical of the "development" ethos of the school. I simply cannot believe that the Department supports the proposed demolition of Wilkinson house "*in the context of the significant social benefit the proposal would provide for the community*" when the local community, member of parliament and the National Trust all object to its destruction, and the school itself as one of the most expensive private schools in Sydney that provides very little to the local "community" apart from morning traffic jams. As a member of the Darlinghurst community for 25 years I find it breathtaking that this destruction is being considered.

As a resident of Thomson Street I am deeply concerned with the proposal's overshadowing of our wonderful Street. The size and bulk of the proposed buildings will impact our light and views, and a further example of SCEGGS inability to think beyond its own apparent needs. I am lead to beleive that these proposed heights actually contravene the development standards for the area and I wonder why the school is exempt in this case? As a private business, albeit one that educates girls, surely it should be subject to the same strictures as any other business?

I hope that you, the Independent Planning Commission, live up your name and show your independence and take into account the local and wider community concerns regarding this overdevelopment and rule accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Ronan Sulich
[REDACTED]