



# 2011 Residents' Association Inc.

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PO Box 1513  
Potts Point NSW 1335

21 February 2014

## Item 12.3 – COUNCIL OFFICERS DETERMINING DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS (S103132)

Dear Councillor,

The 2011 Residents' Association Incorporated ("2011RAI") has as its main platform the advancement and protection of residential amenity in the suburbs making up the 2011 postcode area, namely: Potts Point, Kings Cross, Elizabeth Bay, Rushcutters Bay, and Woollahooloo.

Kings Cross has been the subject of intense media attention in the last few months regarding alcohol-fuelled violence. In the past few years, there has been an explosion of DAs granting permission for premises to be used for purposes of sale of alcohol. Armed with such development approvals, occupiers of premises have been able to obtain liquor licences to sell alcohol. This has led to Kings Cross reaching saturation point, a contributing factor to alcohol-fuelled violence. Many of the DAs were granted by delegated authority and Councillors may well have been unaware of the cumulative impact of those approvals on residential amenity and the safety of those coming into Kings Cross for late night entertainment. Residents are aware that a DA for a tattoo parlour was accidentally given consent when the intention was to have this DA called in. This was reported as a "human error"; one that has long term repercussion for residents living nearby. Many of the DAs are of a level of importance that requires sound judgment and a detailed understanding of the area. Sydney Council claims to be concerned about the environment; we need the Council to be concerned about our local environment which is small in scale and high in terms of population density.

2011RAI supports the thrust of Notice of Motion – Item 12.3 on the agenda for the Council meeting on 24 February 2014. We believe that it is vitally important that elected Councillors are able to voice their concerns and the concerns of residents in relation to DAs which have the potential to negatively impact residential amenity. The benefits of the proposal are:

There will be oversight of submissions made by residents and better outcomes for the community

Residents will be more confident that they have had a say in the shaping of the villages in which they live.

There will be more confidence in decisions. DAs granted under delegated authority are often contentious. People have concerns about impartiality in the decisions made.

Many residents, particularly those in the Kings Cross and Potts Point area have witnessed the dramatic increase in the availability of alcohol through outlets and extended trading hours to their detriment. Their needs and amenity must be taken into consideration; they are after all key stakeholders.

Please support this important change in the way DAs are approved.

Regards,  
Helen Crossing  
Convenor, 2011 Residents' Association  
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