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To whom it may concern

Newcastle Urban Renewal Strategy 2012 – High Density Living

This is a very brief submission that I would like to make to express my concern of the potential for over development of residential apartment block buildings in the Honeysuckle Precinct.

Looking at the apartment blocks in the Worth Place precinct it is concerning that should more similar residential blocks be built on the remaining vacant land that the area will resemble a ghetto unless significant open spaces are provided between blocks and more sophisticated building designs are used.

Opening another large area for park to the harbour would help to break up the high density apartments and offices. In this 2012 renewal strategy there has been a significant reduction in view corridors relative to previous plans. Opening the city to the harbour and the corridors are vital and the numbers of the corridors appear to have reduced or the details not shown in the plans.

For the planners and architects it is a major challenge to design buildings for the area to avoid it becoming too blocky and very unsightly. I am concerned for how the area will look as the buildings age, they are certainly not attractive and they are new buildings.

It is noticed that for the Chiffley and some other buildings the residents have individual garbage bins that fully line the street on garbage night. New buildings should have designated rubbish bulk bins stored off the street and collected by bulk collection.

The parking requirements for residential apartment blocks must be increased to reduce street parking by residents. Traffic flow through the honeysuckle precinct needs to be monitored carefully as it is gridlocked in peak times now. I am in favour of one way traffic through the honeysuckle precinct.

Overall the urban strategy I am in favour of the rail line being cut at Wickham but alternative reliable, fast transport must be provided. The rail corridor should be retained as a corridor and not be built on. Use the corridor for light rail, pedestrian and cycling access.

I hope that progress is made quickly on this strategy.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alistair Christie', with a stylized, cursive script.

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