15 April 2016

Monica Barone City of Sydney Town Hall House 456 Kent Street 43 Brisbane Street Sydney NSW 2000



Dear Monica,

## **RE: Green Square Affordable Housing Program**

City West Housing are seeking council support to amend the City's Local Environmental Plan 2012 (Sydney LEP 2012) to allow collected levies from the Green Square Affordable Housing Program to be utilised within the greater City of Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) to deliver affordable housing.

In 1999, the NSW Government, City West Housing and the former South Sydney Council developed the Green Square Affordable Housing Scheme. The Scheme aims to provide, as development proceeds over the next 15 to 20 years, a rental stock of approximately 330 units for low to moderate income households in the Green Square area.

To date there has been over 200 affordable housing units completed within the Green Square area and a further 150 are planned to be constructed within the next 2 years with land already attained. These numbers would suggest that the original mandate of proving 330 affordable housing units will be met within the next 2 years from contributions already acquired.

As you are aware as a result of the current construction boom acquiring affordable land within the City's LGA is becoming extremely difficult to secure, and by limiting the use of Green Square contributions to exclusively Green Square and its surrounding areas is even more challenging.

The City's Affordable Rental Housing Strategy aims to deliver 7559 affordable housing units within the city by 2030. To assist with this program City West Housing can only see it beneficial to disband the restriction on the use of the Green Square levies to the City's broader LGA area. Such disbandment would align the Green Square Program with the Ultimo-Pyrmont Affordable Housing Scheme which was amended by the City in 2010 to allow the expenditure of levies collected in that area across the LGA.

In light of the above City West Housing requests the City of Sydney support and initiate the process to amend Sydney LEP 2012 and the Green Square Affordable Housing Program to allow levies collected from Green Square to be expended within the entire City LGA.

Kind Regards

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