



3 Yerong Street Ryde NSW 2112

Director
Metropolitan & Regional Projects South
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39

Sydney NSW 2001

(Attention: Mr Michael Woodland)

Department of Planning Received

2.1 SEP 2011

Scanning Room

Dear Mr Woodland

Submission by:

Barry Hadaway

Project:

Residential Development, 74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde (Crowle Home)

Applicant:

Don Fox Planning on behalf of Achieve Australia

Application:

MP10_0110 (Concept Plan)

I wish to object to the above development proposal. Neither the Minister for Planning, nor the Planning Assessment Commission, should not approve the above application.

My reasons for objecting to the proposal are as follows:

1. Traffic Congestion

It is understood that the proposed development will contain approximately 470 units and will provide parking for 580 vehicles. The Meadowbank area has already accommodated 2 large scale, high density developments; Waterpoint (previously known as Faraday Park) with 700+ units and the Bay1/Bay2/BayTop complex with approximately 600 units.

Prior to the construction of these units detailed traffic studies of the Meadowbank area were undertaken by Rhodes Thompson and Associates – "Traffic Impact Statement Proposed Mixed Commercial & Residential Development Faraday Park, Meadowbank (August 2001)" and "Traffic Impact Statement Proposed Mixed Commercial and Residential Development Belmore Street, Meadowbank (October 2001)".

These studies showed that major intersections exiting the area would be operating at failure point, by RTA definitions, at critical times of the day. A copy of Table 7 from the Belmore Street report is attached to illustrate this point.

It should be noted that:

- The Rhodes Thompson studies were based on there being approximately 700 units in the Faraday Park/Waterpoint Development, approximately 530 units in the Bay Complex and a TOTAL of 1,400 other new units being constructed in the Meadowbank area. The sum total of all new units in the Meadowbank area was expected to be approximately 2600. At this level traffic congestion was predicted to be extreme with intersections operating at failure point.
- Ryde Council allowed additional stories on the Bay Complex increasing the number of units from the original 530 to approximately 600.
- The Department of Planning is currently considering a Concept Plan (Major Projects MP09-216 and MP09-219) for the redevelopment of Shepherds Bay. The proponent, Holdmark Property Group is proposing that 2,800 units be constructed with parking for 4,500 vehicles.

- The Crowle Home proposal (MP10_0110) is for 470 units and parking for 580 vehicles.
- The total number of new units now proposed for the Meadowbank Area is now 4,630. This is more than 2,000 extra units beyond the point at which traffic congestion was going to be extreme!
- The Meadowbank area is geographically constrained so far as traffic ingress and egress is concerned. The area is bounded by the Parramatta River to the South, the main northern railway line to the West and by main roads, Victoria Road to the North and Church Street to the East. There are 5 main traffic exits from the Meadowbank area the lights at Bowden St & Victoria Rd, Morrison Rd & Church St, Junction St & Church St; the bridge over the railway off Railway Road & the 'loop road' onto the Ryde Bridge.
- There does not appear to be anyway in which the local road network can be upgraded and exit points to main roads can be upgraded to overcome these congestion problems. There will simply be far too many cars in the area.
- More recent traffic studies have tried to gloss over the traffic problems of the Meadowbank area by making unfounded 'assumptions' and denying the reality of the situation.

2. Lack of Public Transport Capacity

- There is no spare capacity in existing rail services on the main northern line to accommodate the potential increase in commuters and successive governments have made no attempt to increase capacity. Construction of one half of the John Whitton Rail Bridge was completed in 1980, providing two tracks to replace those on the old Meadowbank Railway Bridge. Thirty years later we are still waiting for the second half on the John Whitton Bridge to be constructed to alleviate the rail bottleneck between Rhodes and West Ryde.
- The assumption that because there is a rail station within walking distance of a high density development everyone will catch the train to work is a self serving fantasy promoted by those profiting from such development.

3. Road Safety

- It is proposed the entry and exit points to the Crowle Home site will be located in Porter Street. Porter Street is a narrow laneway, which tragically has become a busy road taking large volumes of traffic exiting Ryde Bridge and turning left into Well Street, then right into Porter Street, in order to avoid congestion on Victoria Road. Such traffic uses a variety of 'rat runs' through the Meadowbank area heading West and North/West. This situation came about through a terrible decision by Ryde Council to sell part of Well Street to the developer of the Bay Complex. Consequently, Porter Street is highly inappropriate as an entry/exit point from the Crowle Home site. Belmore Street on the opposite side of the site is equally unsuitable as it is a busy local road and Meadowbank Primary School is in Belmore Street directly opposite the Crowle Home site. The northern side of the site fronts Junction Street which is also a busy, narrow local road, with large numbers of vehicles using the Junction Street/Church Street intersection to enter and exit the area. There are also large numbers of vehicles entering Junction Street from Porter Street.
- In short vehicle access to and from the site is severely constrained and this makes it unsuitable, from a road safety perspective, for the type of high density development proposed.

4. What is being approved?

- The approval of a 'Concept Plan' under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act is a flawed process as no one knows what a final project will look like. In the past once approval of the 'concept' was given, there were no appeal rights. It is not clear whether or not this iniquitous situation has changed under the transitional arrangements supporting the repeal of Part 3A? The Environmental Defenders Office NSW recommended that Part 3A should be repealed and that the Concept Plan provisions should also be repealed. ("The State of Planning in NSW Recommendations for Reform", Environmental Defenders Office, page 50)
- No Concept Plan approval should be granted. The residents of Meadowbank are entitled to know with certainty what the development will look like, and its scale, in its final form.

5. Lack of Useable Open Space

- While the proposal provides some green open space it is not useable. There needs to be areas big enough for children to play and to kick a ball around, keeping in mind the fact those local parks can only be accessed by crossing busy roads. Also, these parks are too far away for younger children to use unsupervised. Children need safe play areas close to where they live for both cognitive and physical development. (Children in the Compact City, Prof. Bill Randolph UNSW 2006. Accessible natural greenspace in towns and cities, English Nature Research Report No.153, 1995)
- Adequate areas of green open space are essential for the maintenance of good adult mental health. **Beyond Blue to Green The benefits of contact with nature for mental health and well-being**, Deakin University 2010. The proposed development does not provide adequate areas of green open space for adult passive recreation.

6. Facilities for the Disabled

- The Crowle Home was founded following a bequest of this site to the people of Ryde for the express purpose of creating a facility for the care of disabled children. It is improper for Achieve Australia to downgrade the Crowle Home and then play property developer with an irreplaceable community asset.
- It is understood that somewhere between 30 to 50 units in the development will be purpose built units to house disable persons. This number is dramatically short of the 100 disabled persons that have been housed on the Crowle Home site in the past. The demand for accommodation for disabled persons is growing with our growing population. Any redevelopment of the Crowle Home site should protect the purpose for which the land was originally bequeathed and it should provide more, not less, accommodation for disabled persons.
- The wisdom of creating a development in which able bodied persons and those with disabilities will live in close proximity is questionable. Due to the nature of the disabilities of many of the occupants they can be active and noisy at odd times through the night. It is easy to imagine that this would create friction. Able bodied residents who have paid large sums of money for their units might pursue their right to quiet enjoyment of their properties. We are concerned that disabled persons may one day be forced out altogether, robbing Ryde of an invaluable community asset.

7. Not Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD)

- The Department of Planning has a responsibility to ensure that all new development is ecologically sustainable. ESD is broadly defined as, "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Our Common Future, World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987). While Green Star Building codes & BASIX are steps in the right direction they are tiny steps and do not represent ESD. One test is to consider the challenge of climate change. We know that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has advised that greenhouse gas emissions need to be reduced by between 80% and 95% by 2050, on 1990 levels, if we are to avoid dangerous levels of global warming. Will this development enable its occupants to reduce their emissions by 80% to 95%? If the answer is no, which is clearly the case, then the proposed development is not ecologically sustainable.
- It is absolutely essential that the Department of Planning provide a comprehensive operational definition of ESD to provide developers with clear mandatory requirements that ensure new developments enable people to live sustainably.

For all of the above reasons I ask that the Department of Planning refuse approval of Concept Plan Application MP10_0110.

Barry Hadaway

3 Yerong Street

Ryde NSW 2112

TABLE 7
INTANAL AND SCATES OUTPUT – WEEKDAY PEAK HOUR CONDITIONS
PROJECTED JUNCTION EFFICIENCY UNDER BOTH THE DEVELOPER AND COUNCIL
PREFERRED OPTION

P	REFER	RED OF	MOIT					
Scenario 1 Scenario 2								
	Developer Proposed		Council Preferred		Developer Proposed		Council Preferred	
				PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Intersection	AM	PM 1	AM	E. IAT	TIAL	1111	TAIT	
Victoria Road / Bowden Street			202	26	43	28	573	29
Delay	32	24	503		0.97	0.76	1.28	0.72
Degree of Saturation	0.95	0.74	1.25	0.71 C	E .	Ç.	[:	C
Level of Service	D	C	_ F	-		-		
Church Street / Junction Street			22	20	26	19	27	33
Delay	22	12	23	29	0.85	0.78	0.91	0.84
Degree of Saturation	0.82	0.78	0.88	0.81	D.0.5	C.76	p	D
Level of Service	D	В	_ C	D				
Church Street / Morrison Road			227	40	50	50-	81	52
Delay	43	47	55	48	0.94	0.90	1.00	0.93
Degree of Saturation	0.91	0,90	0.98	0.91	U.9-1	0.90 F	F.00	(-°
Level of Service	F	F	F	F	r.			
Constitution Road / Belmore Street				0.1	0.0	10.6	12.I	15.2
Delay	9.5	10.2	11.7	8.1	9.8	0.76	0.81	0.82
Degree of Saturation	0.77	0.76	0.81	0.72	0.77	9	B	C C
Level of Service	В	В	В	В	В	В	D	
Belmore Street / Junction Street					2.0	2.0	2.9	3.8
Delav	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.4	2.8	2.9		0.60
Degree of Saturation	0.32	0.40	0.33	0.57	0.36	0.45	0.37	Α
Level of Service	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
Constitution Road / See Street			5 5				0.0	1.1
Delay	0.5	1.0	0.5	1:0	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.67
Degree of Saturation	0.26	0.62	0.26	0.67	0.27	0.62	0.26	B
Level of Service	В	В	В	В	В	В	В	- D
Railway Road / Railway overbridge					0.0	2.1	0.8	2.7
Delay	0.4	0.9	0.5	1:0	0.8	2.1	0.59	0.79
Degree of Saturation	0.50	0.52	-0.55	0.58	0.54	0.71	A A	D
Level of Service	A	C	A	C	A	C		
Belmore Road / Rothesay Avenue				1	0.0		1.1	1.4
Delay	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.9	1.3	1	0.4
Degree of Saturation	0.26	0.17	0.30	0.21	0.30	0.41	0.35	В.
Level of Service	В	A	B	В	В	В	B	B
Porter Street / Parsonage Street							77	129
Delay	50.9	3.1	112	50.6	120	52.6	77	1
Degree of Saturation	1.13	0.95	1.36	1.15	1.34	1.15	1.61	[[.4]
Level of Service	F	C	ŀ	P	F_	J. E.	F	
Constitution Road / Bowden Street						- 0	0.0	ا ا
Delay	4.0	3.1	6.1	3.9	5.3	3.9	9.8	5.3
Degree of Saturation	0.51	0.51	0.57		0.54	0.56		0.6 B
Level of Service	В	В	В	В	B	В	L D	13
Well Street / Porter Street						100	2.	1
Delay	1.9	62.3	2.3	118	2.1	69.2	1	13
Degree of Saturation	0.84	1.08				1.09		
Level of Service	A	F	A	F		F	A	F

Table 7 indicates that the proposed development and redevelopment of the Faraday Park site is likely to have some impact on the efficiency of some intersections within the study area whilst other junctions are likely to remain significantly unaffected by the proposal and future works.



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22 September 2011

The Director-General The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW) 23-33 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank

I refer to the Environmental Assessment Report ("EAR") submitted to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Limited seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for a Concept Plan for the Site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

I am writing this submission objecting to the proposed Concept Plan. Achieve Australia has failed to address the Director-General's Requirements and in particular DGR 17 and 18, and so the EAR is inadequate.

In making this submission, I spend some time narrating my experience gained at Crowle Home in order to convey to you the special needs Crowle provided before Achieve Australia came along. There is a real need for proper consultation with family of residents and users of day services at Crowle in order to address the special needs of each person. Consultation has been wholly inadequate and in my opinion Achieve Australia has only gone through the

I must also point out that I was not notified of the EAR currently on exhibition. I found out about the EAR through my own network by chance. The proposed changes to my son's daily routine are too important to be overlooked or for his mother to be excluded, and Achieve Australia must be made to accept the importance of keeping families informed.

You will see that later on in this letter I give an example of Cluster Housing which is in my opinion the best option for the Crowle residents and day service users.

Background

The history of the Crowle Home site is relevant to any development proposal. It was donated by Wm Crowle to disadvantaged people, and later people with intellectual disabilities (ID) as a haven in a world where such people had been shunned by society. For over 50 years the site has been used exclusively by people with ID, first as a boarding school and then as a residential facility and work training facility, which later included a day program. The parents and siblings of these people, as well as their friends and local citizens, have devoted countless man-hours to fundraising, building and maintaining the property.

More than any other property in Sydney, this one is held with deep affection in the hearts of the stakeholders

The school was started at a time when people with ID were not entitled to an education or any other form of support. Crowle Home was a centre of excellence in education and training to which other, later organisations - here and overseas, aspired. There were volunteers still working for the benefit of the residents after decades of devotion, although recently many have become so distressed after the merger with Achieve they tell me they can no longer continue to volunteer.

Personal History

When my son with ID was born nearly 30 years ago, Crowle Home was the place recommended to me by professionals and parents alike. I hoped that if my son survived to adulthood he would be accepted at Crowle Home as a resident. I moved to the area 27 years ago so we would be near Crowle, and so he could go to the special school the Crowle students attended after their school was moved.

My son began attending the day program at Crowle Home when he left school at 18 years old. He has been going there for 10 years. He is comfortable and happy being with his friends on this spacious, leafy site.

I have been a volunteer in a variety of capacities at Crowle Home for all of those years until recently.

Objections

Environmental

I live 4 blocks, or a 10 minute walk from the Crowle Home site

1. There are already thousands of units in the immediate area – existing, being built, and plan approved. We don't need more units for the general population in Meadowbank. The Ryde area desperately needs purpose-built supported accommodation for people with dependant disabilities.

- 2. SIA 8.6.2 Impact on traffic and parking. The traffic in this area is already a nightmare, particularly along Church Street and in both directions past Top Ryde to the north and Homebush Bay Drive in the south. Peak hour generally lasts for 2 hours or more each morning and evening. This will be worse because of the already planned blocks of over 1,000 units expected to be built in this area. Another 470 units will only make traffic worse.
- 3. Porter Street is very narrow. I use this entrance to Crowle Home every day when I take my son to and from his day program. If this street is going to be the main entrance to the development – with two entrances here – it will need to be widened. However, the blocks of units at the southern end have narrowed Porter Street even more at that end. What is planned for the street to take the increased number of cars and trucks?
- 4. Peak hour ferries are working to capacity now. Will ferries be more frequent in peak times?
- 5. SIA 9 Potential loss of visual amenity. The mature trees on the Crowle Home site are considered by locals to be the green lungs of Meadowbank, but they are not tall enough to disguise 6x seven storey buildings. This complex has the potential of being a towering ghetto of tomorrow.

Social Impact

- 1. Achieve Australia have not lived up to their promise at the time of the merger to honour earlier board decisions of both Crowle and Achieve. Namely, at their last meeting the Crowle board decided to sell the southern 1/3 of the site to finance a purpose-built cluster development on the remaining, northern 2/3 for the exclusive use of people with ID. This decision was taken after we parents surveyed the stakeholders and were able to show that over 85% were in favour of retaining the land for exclusive use of people with ID.
- 2. Achieve Australia has not honoured the promise made to Crowle members for their memberships to be reinstated. We were told that the merger had to be between equals. Achieve only had 14 members and Crowle had over 200 members. Our memberships (and voting rights) were taken from us but have not been given back. We have applied for membership and been refused.
- 3. The stakeholders of the merged entity have been disenfranchised. Not only do we no longer have a say in any decisions taken by the board, we no longer have a say in who is a member of that board. I am encouraged to vote for board members of community organisations like the NRMA, but I am refused this right when it comes to the intimate care of my son who is unable to speak for himself. These people are making

- decisions directly affecting the lives and well-being of our sons and daughters, brothers and sisters without consultation. (see 4)
- 4. Achieve Australia claims to have held numerous "consultations" with stakeholders. While those meetings took place, they were in no way a consultation. They were appointments made with minimum number of stakeholders (up to 10), with at least 7 members of staff, who told the stakeholders of non-negotiable decisions that had been made. Despite many general and specific objections about these decisions, Achieve Australia has continued to ignore our concerns. At the meeting I attended we were told about the proposed purpose-built day program/respite centre, and the proposal for the Crowle Home site. I will detail the day service in the next point. We were shown a plan for the Crowle Home site that held 14 blocks of units up to 8 storeys high. We were told that they planned to retain greater than 50% of the units "so they could have naming rights" to the property; keep some of those units for the present Crowle Home residents and rent out the rest as an income. Even then there was some disagreement amongst the staff as to how much would be retained for "our" use. Figures quoted were 5%, 7%, 10%, but the then board chairperson said "Oh, no. We would never go as high as 10% as that does not comply with our social inclusion policy". This discrepancy continues in the pages of the Concept Plan, and in what is still being quoted by various senior staff of Achieve Australia. Figures of 1% and "if" and "may" are also mentioned. There is every indication in the Concept Plan that there is no guarantee to retain any of the units at all. I find this inconsistency very worrying.
- SIA executive summary p2: dot point 2, and SIA 9: Reference to the day service facilities and "vocationally oriented" program. Having accepted The Crowle Board's decision to sell the "back third" of the land (which presently houses the day program), I have long been reconciled to moving the location of the day service centre. However, Achieve Australia - during their "community consultations" told us that we would have a purpose-built facility which would double as a weekend respite facility. That all sounded fine. We anxiously awaited the big announcement of the location only to be informed after months of silence that that particular land purchase would no longer go ahead, and a new location was being negotiated. More months later we discover that the day service and respite program will be run in a beautiful old historic home that has been set up and used as an events venue (for wedding receptions and similar). We were only told after the purchase was a fait accompli. This is not consultation. While this is a lovely place, it is unsuitable for a day service program in my opinion. Achieve Australia intends to continue using this as an events facility (Achieve News Autumn/Winter 2011, as well as confirmed by senior staff admitting same under persistent questioning.) They have been unable to explain how it will house the day service Monday to Friday, and respite clients on the weekends while conducting events. Questions on this subject are met with silence. The clients are to be "taken out into the community" every day so they won't spoil the carpet, or otherwise intrude in the main purpose of the venue, it would seem. I feel the clients

have become incidental to Achieve Australia's main objectives of making money and empire building.

A day was arranged for day service families to view the newly acquired "Araluen". This was the only time we were able to ask about the future of the programs. I had many questions about the venue and the program plans. Senior staff described the new day service as follows: "A hub, where people will be dropped off before they go out into the community". "It will be a revolving door". "No more small groups as at the Crowle Home site." "There will no longer be sofas for the clients to sit and relax." "Clients can meet in coffee shops and such, like ordinary people do." "They will no longer be doing therapies. Instead of music therapy, for example, clients can go into the community to find a music teacher to teach them how to play a musical instrument like I would do." "Clients can attend TAFE, and TAFE can use the facilities at Araluen for their ordinary classes and our clients can fit in." These proposals would not suit the clients in this day service due to their level of disability. They have been assessed as unable to be in the supported workplace, they are unable to fit into TAFE classes for the general population, and are unable to learn a musical instrument. However, every person thoroughly enjoys their music therapy sessions at Crowle and interacting with their peers.

My complaint that this new program would not suit my son — that he needs to have time to relax in familiar surroundings without expectations of perfect, "normal" behaviour, and being under scrutiny by the public, was met with the comment that the public needs to be educated. I expect the day program to educate my son, to give him an interest and enjoyment. He is not in this program to educate the public. His intellectual disability is such that he is unable to benefit from a "vocationally oriented" program. He needs a centre-based program which I fear is no longer going to be catered for at this new site. I am also very concerned that the proposed changes to the day program will adversely affect my son's and other clients' behaviours due to stress and unreasonable expectations put upon them.

- 6. The Government approves of cluster housing for people with dependant disabilities. Funding has been allocated to devolution onsite for government facilities and NGOs. Many NGOs are devolving onsite. This should also be the case for Crowle Home.
- 7. SIA 3.3: Last paragraph. "In view of operational and safety issues arising from the current facilities, Achieve Australia is pursuing the redevelopment of the site." I dispute this statement. The buildings could have been renovated or even just maintained, but have deteriorated since Achieve Australia's tenure. They have not been cared for because it was always Achieve Australia's intention to demolish and develop. This statement is disingenuous.

- 8. SIA 3.4: "Initial Community Reactions to the Development Proposal" I note that I have been quoted in this section and in those circumstances am entitled to respond. These are not "initial" reactions, but continuing serious concerns. My opinion has not changed since writing to the newspaper. The "vast majority" of the families have asked we younger parents to help them save the Crowle Home land. We are very well aware of the entire circumstances of the situation, and I am offended, but not surprised, at having my opinion dismissed in this off-hand manner. Further, Achieve Australia has not guaranteed that any proportion of the dwellings will be specifically used for their clients. On the contrary, depending on who you speak to, we have been told that the units designed for the disabled (a government requirement in new developments, remember) could be sold to the public. There seems to be no allowance at all to purposefully accommodate the Crowle residents. SIA 8.1: Inclusion within the development of some housing for people with disabilities. The figures quoted by Achieve Australia vary, but the figure of 10% of the units for people with disability is clearly a government directive for all new developments (as stated by an Achieve Australia advisor in the community consultation September 8th 2011), and does not mean that it will house the people from Crowle Home. SIA 9: Summary of Identified Impacts and Mitigating Actions: Dislocation of existing residents. "Some residents MAY return to live in apartments on the site". If Achieve Australia claims to be building purpose-built units for their residents to "age in place", why would they NOT be able to return to the site?
- 9. SIA 8.1: "Increased Community Inclusion". Anecdotal evidence strongly suggests that residential clients' care has deteriorated since being put out "in the community". Examples of this have been presented to the CEO and Chairperson of the Board by face-to-face meetings and emails, without those concerns being addressed, or in some cases without emails being acknowledged at all. For example: many receive drop-in support (possibly only one hour a day), although the CEO of Achieve denied this occurs when questioned at the community consultation on Sept 11th. There are questions about the level of training support staff receive. The clients no longer have someone to repair and tailor-make adjustments to clothing as they did at Crowle home. Few clients have anything to do during the long days and nights alone "in the community" so spend their time watching the television. The days of true social inclusion are long gone now that the residents are scattered across many suburbs. There used to be inclusion in dances, parties and sporting events to name a few. Not anymore. Just because they are living in an ordinary house in an ordinary street does not mean they are included in the social life of the area. This is not about where a person lives. It should be about the quality of care and support received.
- 10. **SIA 8.1 and EAR 7.15.2**: Housing Strategy. I have asked the CEO when this document will be made available for me to read. Her reply was that there is a little bit on the web site (copy attached), but is a work in progress. If there is no document, how can it be quoted in this Concept Plan? How can comments be made about the strategy in reference to this plan without the document?

- 11. SIA 8.1 Preserve existing relationships. A parent who complained about the level of care in her son's group home was told she was no longer welcome to visit unless she made an appointment a week in advance.
- 12. SIA 8.1 Preserve Existing Relationships & EAR 7.15.2 Relocation assistance and Transition planning. I have seen and heard residential clients searching for their friends. I have been asked by residential clients on more than one occasion if I "knew where "x" is?". They don't understand where they have gone, and have no means of communicating with their friends unless it is in person. This brings two points: 1. How are the residential clients being transitioned and counselled? and 2. What opportunities are being given for clients to socialise with each other as a group, how often, and if this is being done, how long will it continue? Have transition plans been established for those who have already been dislocated? Or is this something that might or might not happen if the Concept Plan is approved? This dislocation of residents continues while the Concept Plan is being considered. I suspect the reality is that all residents will be removed before any transition plans have been prepared. I hope I am wrong, but the distress of these people I have witnessed is very real and very disturbing. A transition plan should have been in place for the FIRST person who was removed.
- 13. SIA executive summary p2: dot points 2 and 4, and SIA 8.1, and SIA 9: A better use of this land would be for a purpose built aged care facility for people with ID as decided by the Crowle board before the merger. Only this will allow these residents to "age in place". The present plans to remove the residents into group homes will not only isolate them, but as they age and deteriorate, they have to find a nursing home that is able to take them. Only last week a resident was thus placed.

Conclusion

- 1. We need to consider future Ryde area residents with ID who will need supported accommodation in a place like Crowle Home. SIA 9 (Summary) states "accommodation services within the Ryde LGA and **elsewhere** in Sydney". Clearly this is an admission that these people are being moved out of their local area. This land was bequeathed to people in this area and therefore should remain as a haven **in the Ryde area**. This land is, of course, much more valuable than land elsewhere. The Concept Plan Achieve Australia has displayed indicated to me that people with disabilities aren't worthy of living on land that is valuable. Achieve Australia executives have no real understanding of its history or meaning to the local people.
- 2. Achieve Australia claims in many sections of the Concept Plan, and in all their literature, they ensure individuals' rights, choices and preferences, yet dictates what those choices must be. They seem to say all the right words but the reality is that the clients are slotted into Achieve's ideology. The Crowle Home clients, or their families on their behalf, have chosen

their accommodation preferences, yet they are being moved out into isolated houses away from their friends and the rich social life they used to enjoy. Now the centre-based day service clients will be made to constantly "go out into the community", apparently without consideration of personal choice, the need to have down time, feeding issues, and toileting issues, to name a few. This is not what we signed up for.

- 3. Achieve Australia claims to have consultations with the stakeholders. This is false. They dictate to the stakeholders.
- 4. The Crowle community was very close, involved and caring. We "looked out for" each other and our loved ones. We are still caring, but as the loved ones are now dispersed through many suburbs we can no longer keep an eye on their welfare. Achieve Australia has made a point of keeping families from congregating. We used to hold forums 4 times a year when whoever was available would gather on a designated Sunday morning, in the Dulcie Johnson Hall at Crowle, to openly discuss relevant issues, then socialise over a cuppa and snack. This has not happened since the merger with Achieve. The parents are quite old now in their 80s and 90s, some suffering dementia and others too frail to get around like they used to. We have even had some deaths of parents, but not found out until after the funeral because of this lack of communication.
- 5. I would like to show by one example how much social life has changed for Crowle clients since Achieve took over. I think this one example clearly demonstrates Achieve's attitude.

Christmas Past:

We used to have a Christmas party every year where each of the three services' clients and their families would gather together to celebrate Christmas, enjoy fellowship and introduce new families into the fold. It would be held at a local club - in my time either North Ryde RSL or Rydalmere Bowling Club. There was no charge for clients (Crowle paid for them), and family members paid a small cost to cover their own lunch. The meal was a festive roast of pork with gravy and apple sauce, roast potatoes, pumpkin and peas, and finished with a dessert. Jugs of soft drink were supplied and there was always the festive touch of bon bons containing those silly paper crowns. Everyone - parents, staff and clients dressed in their "going out" clothes (red and green if possible) and silly Christmas T-shirts. There would be live music – a three piece band which played classic hits from the 60s and 70s. These same musicians came regularly to Crowle Home to play for the clients, and knew the clients by name. From the second the music started until the end, the dance floor was packed. Crowle people are a most appreciative audience! Every Crowle client received a lovely present always a perfect choice, individually chosen, bought by the staff and paid for by Crowle. These were distributed by Santa with the help of a senior staff member to read the name tags. Santa was played by a client every year, dressed in a Santa suit (a female Santa had a hat with plaits). This was a coveted role! All the clients knew who it was, of course, and it was all part of the fun. The excitement at present-giving time was wonderful to see! These celebrations were much anticipated by the clients. They would talk about the Christmas party for weeks beforehand, asking who was coming and what would they wear; announce daily that Santa was coming and that "he" would be bringing a present for them.

Christmas Present:

Fast forward to life under Achieve Australia last year. No date had been set for a Christmas party and by the end of November the clients were becoming upset asking when the party was going to be. Parents kept asking, too, but the staff were unable to answer. There had been no directive from Management. Then came the announcement. There would be no Christmas party for the day service or workplaces. It was unnecessary. They could celebrate at their homes. Residential clients would have a celebration in their own homes "in the community". In the mean-time the Achieve management had been organising their own gala event for \$30 per head for themselves and the staff (who told me they didn't want to attend under these circumstances). After uproar by parents and staff, there was a partial about-face. And these were the cheery rules: separate celebrations for each service. No Christmas T-shirts were to be worn. No presents. No Santa because this is not age-appropriate.

I don't know what the residential clients did. The work clients went bowling. They were allowed one drink, one hotdog and one game of bowling. This costs \$15 (paid for by Achieve). Parents were initially expected to drive across Sydney to take their child in evening peak traffic, wait, and drive them home again. Definitely no presents, which upset the clients. Not everyone bothered going.

The day service staff did the best they could within a very tight budget. The Dulcie Johnson Hall at Crowle was decorated and the food, prepared by the resident Crowle cook, looked delicious, but the staff had to do everything – shopping, cooking, serving, feeding, cleaning, toileting, etc for the clients. There was music. One of the clients is a great DJ, so he was in his element. Presents? Yes, but only because the staff insisted. It was a Secret Santa, and each family bought a present for a client who they may or may not know, because, remember, parents aren't allowed to gather together anymore. Absolutely NO FAMILY was allowed to attend. Except that I DID attend, as did the mother and sister of one other client. The staff weren't allowed to offer us any food, of course. I was told that the photos I was taking were not to be published, yet they asked for copies, which I gave them. They published two in their newsletter without acknowledgment and despite my instructions not to publish unless they first ask.

Christmas Future?:

You see? The people who truly care about the clients – the staff who work with them and their families – have to fight tooth and nail for the largesse of the management to agree to a social life that is an expectation of the rest of Australia. I cannot believe that Achieve Australia will honour any commitment to give their residential clients any opportunity to see each other once they are out of Crowle Home.

Achieve has never understood our love and loyalty to each other because that has never been part of their culture. This, too, is what we will never regain once this precious land is sold off.

Conclusion

I urge the Department to refuse the Concept Plan or require Achieve Australia to address the DGRs properly and in that case I be given the opportunity to make further submissions including being kept informed of progress.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Rollo

This is a copy of the accommodation information on Achieve Australia's web site. I was unable to find any such document as "Housing Strategy".

Accommodation

Achieve Australia Community Living enable people with disability to live and participate in the community with varying degrees of independence. People are supported to learn and maintain life skills, develop relationships, make choices about their lives and participate in community activities.

We offer a range of accommodation options including drop-in support based on individual needs, co-residency arrangements with non-disabled housemates and around-the-clock assistance in shared community households.

Residential Living

A small group of people are supported in their day to day living at Crowle Home, a residential facility in Ryde.

Service Access

For a person with disability to receive accommodation support, you will need to register with NSW Human Services, Ageing, Disability and HomeCare (ADHC).

ADHC will then arrange a needs assessment and you will go on to a vacancy register. Call the ADHC head office for further information about your area: 02 8270 2000.

Based on available resources, ADHC may then refer you to Achieve Australia Ltd or another accommodation support provider in your area for assessment so we can develop an accommodation proposal that meets your needs.

Finding Accommodation to Suit Your Needs

Achieve Australia seek safe, secure and affordable housing with you or on your behalf. Negotiating with real estate agents, Housing NSW, community housing organisations and private landlords is a key strength – especially given our community connections and long-standing reputation in providing accommodation support services since the early 1950's.

We would work closely with you, your family and other important people in your life to build an individual Lifestyle Plan. This plan will enable you to set goals around your lifestyle and accommodation which will direct the type of model of support that may be most suited to your needs. We will then work with you to identify what skills you wish to develop, what type of support you may need to do this, and the type of environment that would best facilitate opportunities to build your independence.

An example of a unique home environment and support engineered by Achieve Australia is a long term co-residency arrangement (15 years+), in which we support a person with significant intellectual disability to live with a non-disabled flatmate. The home and housing arrangements we devise are as unique as each individual who participates in this program.

Accommodation Support

We provide a range of accommodation and support options including:

Community home / group home - For people with high support needs, who need help to eat, shower, dress, manage their health, etc. We roster skilled staff 24/7, 7 days a week.

Drop In Support - For people who already have some living skills we can offer drop in support to

Co-residency Model - Where a person with disability shares housing with a person without disability.

Cluster housing - Where a person may live independently, or share, in a home that is located within close proximity to other people we support.

Co-located - Where two or more houses may be established adjacent to the other with shared overnight support.

Alternative family placement - Foster care program.

Villas and Apartments - This model can allow for people to live close to friends while still maintaining an independent living environment.

In Home Support - Where people receive minimal support targeted at specific skill building to enable greater independence. Drop in visits are made in-line with your own routine, including your working hours if employed or community activities you're engaged in. We can assist you to budget, shop, make transportation arrangements and anything else to help build a meaningful and valued life.

Leaving Care

Leaving Care service assists young people between 18 and 25 to transition from the care of NSW Human Services Community Services (formerly DoCs) to independent living. We provide stable accommodation along with flexible support to help each person live as independently as possible. Access to vocational and community activities is also organised.

To access the Leaving Care program, you will need to be referred by NSW Human Services, Ageing, Disability and HomeCare (ADHC). ADHC may refer you to Achieve Australia Ltd or another provider for assessment so we can develop a service that meets your needs.

Younger People in Residential Aged Care

This program provides alternative accommodation and support for young people who are living in, or at risk of entering, residential aged care.

Services offered under this program may include:

Recreational and diversional therapy

Allied health services, such as physiotherapy and occupational therapy

Participation in day programs and community access

Support to visit family and friends and assistance to maintain family and social relationships

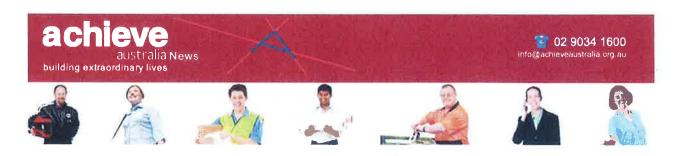
Accommodation

Home modifications

Case management and advocacy support

To access the Younger People in Residential Aged Care service you will need to be referred by NSW Human Services, Ageing, Disability and HomeCare (ADHC).

Initially, ADHC priority will be given to people aged under 50 years who are inappropriately housed in residential aged care and those under 50 years who are most at risk of inappropriately entering residential aged care. ADHC may refer you to Achieve Australia Ltd or another provider for assessment so we can develop a service that meets your needs.



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Political Donations Disclosure Statement to Minister or the Director-General

If you are required under section 147(3) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to disclose any political donations (see Page 1 for details), please fill in this form and sign below.

Disclosure statement details					
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While the Foundations are similar in some respects, there are also differences. How will this work in the new organisation?

It is clear that the philosophy of each Foundation is unique. The philosophy and vision of the new Foundation will seek to build on the legacy of both Foundations in providing excellent, personal care for service users and support for their families.

There is diversity of opinions about disability service provision across both Foundations. It is on these fundamentals that we aim to build a stronger best practice Foundation, that is recognised across the state for its excellent services based on individualised care.

How do you know this will keep the Foundations viable? Aren't both Foundations running at a loss?

Full due diligence has been conducted on Achieve and Crowle's financial position and indicates a successful merger will mean the services offered by both Foundations will continue into the future — see the Scheme Document for more information.

For example, under the combined financial model, a five per cent (5%) efficiency is expected in the first full year of merged operations. On the combined expenditure of the two foundations, this equates to approximately \$1 million.

The potential for savings exists in many areas, not just in duplication of senior management and administration staff, but also in contracts such as telephone, cleaning, insurance and many others where one merged arrangement will be cheaper than two.

What will the changes be for Members?

To comply with the principle of a merger of equals, each Foundation was asked by the Federal Court to nominate eight initial members for the proposed merged foundation.

The number of sixteen members is an interim step. There will be an increase in members of the merged entity in 2009, in line with the constitutional requirements which are broadly similar to the current Crowle and Achieve constitutions.

All other current members of Crowle and Achieve will have their existing memberships discontinued and will automatically become Friends of the new foundation with ability to attend and speak at meetings. Initially, only the slxteen members nominated will be able to vote.

Merger

Members and Friends will continue to have a critical role in the new foundation. Both foundations are committed to consult with all stakeholders and will adopt a framework to facilitate participation in the development of new and existing services.

It is imperative that members of both Foundations continue to have a voice and be heard. This is important to ensure things continue to be done in the best interest of service users and their families. The continued involvement of all our Members and Friends will only make the new foundation stronger.

What will happen to staff and volunteers?

Both Foundations are extremely appreciative of their high quality staff and volunteers. These people will continue to play an important role in the stronger, more viable combined foundation. The merged foundation will offer over 280 full time equivalent positions (380 employees) with increased opportunities for training, career progression and enriched job experiences. The role of volunteers in the future will remain crucial to fundraising and foundation support.

The land asset of The Crowle Foundation is a big issue for members. What will happen to this after the merger vote? Also, what will happen to service users' Trusts?

The Crowle and Achieve Boards recognise that the Crowle land underpins the core of The Crowle Foundation's heritage and legacy.

The issues regarding the Crowle site have been considered at length by the Crowle Board and at their August meeting, it was unanimously resolved: "An in-principle agreement to sell approximately up to one third of the southern end of the Crowle site, subject to zoning approval, for the funding of alternative accommodation and other services as identified. A development on the northern end of the site (previously occupied by the German School) will be explored as part of the solution."

Regardless of the outcome of the proposed merger – this land strategy has been agreed upon and will be implemented.

The Crowle Foundation also has a Trust Fund that currently administers the funds of The Crowle Foundation's participating service users. These funds will be transferred to the new foundation for administrative purposes, with the Trust being continued as its. Funds will continue to be treated independently of any other funds or accounts and be used for the sole use and benefit of the participating service users who benefit from the Trust.

DID NOT HAPPEN

2



22 October 2008

Dear Fellow Members

Re: Proposed Merger

I would like to take the opportunity to thank those members who have attended meetings and contacted us by phone and mail in order to discuss important issues concerning this crucial merger decision.

We are especially encouraged by the member support that is being given to the proposed merger as they have satisfied themselves regarding:

- the planned land development at Crowle and the current Board's commitment to carry this forward into the newly merged foundation
 - continued voice in the new foundation, with the opportunity also to become ordinary voting members of the new foundation in 2009
- the continuation of the Crowle name in some form on our current site

MI

 that service provision for their family member will be maintained and in some areas expanded

This is a critical decision point for Crowle. Our financial future is not strong and without this merger we will be faced with closing services and a declining foundation with a bleak future.

A merger will give us a very promising and exciting future, and enable us to preserve all the best of what Crowle has to offer in a new and financially stronger foundation.

Your vote is most important. If you are unable to attend the Scheme Meeting on Sunday 2nd November at 10.30am, then please use the proxy form in the scheme booklet or the extra one attached to this letter.

I encourage you to vote in favour of the merger. If you wish, please mark your proxy for the Board Chair and in Favour of the Scheme.

Proxies must reach Crowle by 10.30am Friday 31st October.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our AGM this coming Sunday 26th October at 10.30am, with a final members meeting to discuss merger issues straight after the AGM meeting.

Kind regards

Chair, The Crowle Foundation Board



Mrs Enid Farrow 90 St George Crescent DRUMMOYNE NSW 2047

Telephone 9181 4978

22 September 2011

The Director-General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
23-33 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank

I refer to the Environmental Assessment Report ("EAR") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Limited ("Achieve") seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for a Concept Plan for 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

I object to the proposed Concept Plan because the EAR is inadequate in that the EAR does not meet the Director-General's Requirements and in particular DGR 17 and 18.

About Victoria Farrow

My daughter Victoria Farrow (born 2 January 1952) was diagnosed with influential meningitis in mid-October 1952. This was eight days after her third diphtheria-whooping cough immunisation. Victoria survived but suffered brain damage. She thrived physically for some months and became increasingly hyperactive, escaping from our home and running away.

I had two other children older than Victoria: a daughter five years older and a son three years older. Family life became difficult. The paediatrician I consulted suggested Crowle Home for Victoria and Victoria started school (so-called) there in 1959 when she was seven years old. My husband and I immediately became involved there. Crowle required parents' involvement

of course and we gratefully opportunity accepted the opportunity. Years passed. Two years later when Victoria was nine years old – and still a very wild child – we were offered a residential place for her at Crowle and took up the offer. For many years, we brought Victoria home from Crowle for family visits every weekend. She never ever attempted to run away again.

Victoria Farrow is now 59 years of age. She has lived at Crowle for 50 years. She loves to come to be with me at my home but is very happy and excited to go back to her home at Crowle at the end of her visit. Vickie works three days a week in Achieve Employment Services. She loves it. She is very happy, very healthy and an extremely sociable person. She loves to communicate although her speech is somewhat affected. She loves sport. Long years spent living at Crowle have not resulted in her turning into a poor miserable institutionalised person. However, because Vickie does everything at absolutely top speed, she does not do things thoroughly and consequently she continues to need supervision with her personal care, her meals, her clothing and so on, and take her medication to control epilepsy. She needs 24 hours care. As Vickie's Mother, I am concerned about Achieve's record in this area.

In terms of my family's involvement in developing Crowle, as I have mentioned, my late husband and I started our involvement in Crowle immediately my daughter Vickie went there. In my husband's case, he continued to be involved until his death in 1986. For my part, I have been highly involved now for 52 years. I became a committee member in about 1965 and proceeded to become a director of the company when Crowle Foundation became incorporated. I acted as chairman of the Residential Sub-committee for many years and was also a member of these committees at Crowle: The Ways and Means Committee, the Finance Committee, the Fundraising Committee and the Development Committee. I resigned from the board in 2008 when the merger was in progress. I remain a trustee of The Crowle Foundation Ancillary Trust.

I am grateful to have received an OAM award because of my work at Crowle.

My late husband and I paid 600 Pounds for an accommodation bond under the Permanent Bed Scheme at the time when it commenced so that Vickie could continue to live at Crowle.

No consultation

I was not notified about the EAR currently on exhibition.

My request to the Minister

I request the Minister or whoever it is in the Department to refuse the proposed Concept Plan. In the alternative, Achieve must address the DGRs and especially those relating to consultation and social impact. My daughter's individual needs and future care must be addressed properly and my views as her Mother taken into account in providing for her.

Cluster Housing on the Site appears to me to be the best option for my daughter and the other residents, and will also provide for those using Crowle on a daily basis.

Yours sincerely

Enia L. Farron O.A.M.

Enid Farrow

Political Donations Disclosure Statement to Minister or the Director-General

If you are required under section 147(3) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to disclose any political donations (see Page 1 for details), please fill in this form and sign below.

Disclosure statement details					
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21 September 2011

Chris Georgiou 12 Bruce Street Ashfield NSW 2131

Telephone: 0411433124 Email:cgeorgi1@csc.com

The Director-General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
23-33 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

By Email: information@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank

Introduction

I refer to the Environmental Assessment Report ("EAR") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd ("Achieve") seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ("the Act") for a Concept Plan for the Site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

I am writing this submission to object to the proposed Concept Plan. The principal reason is the EAR is inadequate because the EAR does not meet the Director-General's Requirements and in particular DGR 17 and 18.

Background

My family migrated to Australia from Singapore in 1961. The 2 main reasons were the lack of facilities/programs for Down syndrome children like my brother Stephan (then 9 years old) and also the unknown political future with the country's impending independence from British rule.

By late 1961 Mum had my brother Stephan enrolled and attending the daily Mon-Fri teaching program that was being run by the Sub-Normal Children's Welfare Association based here at the Crowle Home site.

On 21st August 1968 Stephan was offered a place in the Permanent Residence Project – Crowle Rest Home. Mum accepted it and started paying the require instalments immediately. Around mid-1969 Stephan took up residence while Mum was still writing letters to the various government bodies that were denying him the disability pension due to not meeting the required minimum number of years living in Australia. This resulted in Mum and Dad meeting extra financial burden over the next 2-3 years to cover Stephan's costs else he would lose his place.

In the 1970s a compulsory monthly Work Day was introduced for all the resident client fathers to do general repairs and garden maintenance. This was to keep running costs down but again parents had to either pay a fee or turn up on the day to perform work.

Stephan went into simple workplace employment, enjoyed sporting and other social programs that Crowle provided and it became home. His monthly family home visits were like little holidays with Mum, Dad and his brother.

I can remember friends questioning Mum about why she took her son out of the home environment. She would initially feel guilty, even become a bit teary and then try to best explain the reasons. Her most compelling point was that Crowle was not like a common institutional place but rather a big family were everyone felt welcomed, respected and the level of care was second to none.

In the years from when I was a young adult, Mum and Dad would every now and then pass comment on how glad they made Crowle Stephan's home. The simple fact is they could not have provided Stephan with the many friends, life experiences and activities Crowle has provided for him over the many years.

Objections

- 1. My parents' wish is for Stephan to remain at Crowle Home because that has been his permanent home for several decades.
- 2. My parents made considerable financial sacrifices in placing Stephan at Crowle Home.
- 3. Professor Cameron at Royal Rehabilitation Centre Ryde diagnosed Stephan to have early stages of Alzheimer's back in September 2010. I'm no expert but from what I know about this disease the best approach for my brother is familiarity, simple spaces and daily tasks. So what logic is there in taking him out of a place he has been familiar with for over 42 years? In my opinion, Stephan enjoys living at Crowle Home and inter-acting with Crowle residents and friends. My family gain great personal support in terms of a social and support network from families and friends of other Crowle residents and this has benefited my mother in particular.

- 4. Stephan is of course unable to articulate his own opinion on Achiever's proposals. There has been a total disregard for Stephan's family in terms of seeking its opinion on how the Site should be developed. We were never notified of the EAR on exhibition and I only found out through an acquaintance. Achieve has not approached us to discuss and seek our views at to what are the best options for Stephan's future care. I request that the current relocation program be suspended until these critical issues are adequately addressed in an open and transparent fashion in Stephan's best interest.
- 5. The proposed development is likely to disrupt Stephan's normal routine and more than likely extra travel time will be required for family to visit him at any proposed new premises if he is moved from the Site. In my opinion, moving from the Site would adversely affect Stephan's health: for example, I believe he will become anxious and confused.
- 6. Achieve did not approach our family to discuss the range of options in terms of alternative accommodation for Stephan.
- 7. In particular, no consideration is given to providing cluster housing or a possible high level care building for aging clients on the Site. Many parents expressed the view at early meetings with Achieve that they preferred the current residents to remain in their existing buildings while cluster housing or a high level care building for aging clients (as necessary) was provided in Stage 1 during the course of the development.

Conclusion

In my opinion the Crowle Home redevelopment is purely being driven by financial gain and Achieve has paid insufficient attention to addressing the rights and needs of the residential clients and their families: see the objections set out above. The Concept Plan must be either refused or Achieve must be required to consider in a realistic matter the options for Crowle residents including my brother Stephan (for example, cluster housing: see above) and consult the families as part of this process. As stated at the outset, the EAR is inadequate because the EAR does not meet the Director-General's Requirements and in particular DGR 17 and 18.

Yours sincerely

Chris Georgiou

Political donations disclosure statement



Office use only:	
Date received://	Planning application no

This form may be used to make a political donations disclosure under section 147(3) of the *Environmental Planning Assessment Act 1979* for applications or public submissions to the Minister or the Director-General.

Please read the following information before filling out the Disclosure Statement on pages 3 and 4 of this form. Also refer to the 'Glossary of terms' provided overleaf (for definitions of terms in *italics* below). Once completed, please attach the completed declaration to your planning application or submission.

Explanatory information

Making a planning application or a public submission to the Minister or the Director-General Under section 147(3) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ('the Act') a person:

- (a) who makes a relevant planning application to the Minister or the Director-General is required to disclose all reportable political donations (if any) made within the relevant period to anyone by any person with a financial interest in the application, or
- (b) who makes a *relevant public submission* to the Minister or the Director-General in relation to the application is required to disclose all *reportable political donations* (if any) made within the *relevant period* to anyone by the person making the submission or any *associate of that person*.

How and when do you make a disclosure?

The disclosure to the Minister or the Director-General of a reportable political donation under section 147 of the Act is to be made:

- (a) in, or in a statement accompanying, the relevant planning application or submission if the donation is made before the application or submission is made, or
- (b) if the donation is made afterwards, in a statement of the person to whom the relevant planning application or submission was made within 7 days after the donation is made.

What information needs to be included in a disclosure?

The information requirements of a disclosure of reportable political donations are outlined in section 147(9) of the

Pages 3 and 4 of this document include a Disclosure Statement Template which outlines the information requirements for disclosures to the Minister or to the Director-General of the Department of Planning.

Note: A separate Disclosure Statement Template is available for disclosures to councils.

Warning: A person is guilty of an offence under section 125 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 in connection with the obligations under section 147 only if the person fails to make a disclosure of a political donation or gift in accordance with section 147 that the person knows, or ought reasonably to know, was made and is required to be disclosed under section 147.

The maximum penalty for any such offence is the maximum penalty under Part 6 of the *Election Funding and Disclosures Act 1981* for making a false statement in a declaration of disclosures lodged under that Part.

Note: The maximum penalty is currently 200 penalty units (currently \$22,000) or imprisonment for 12 months, or both.

Political Donations Disclosure Statement to Minister or the Director-General

If you are required under section 147(3) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to disclose any political donations (see Page 1 for details), please fill in this form and sign below.

Disclosure statement details							
Name of person making this disclosure			ication reference (e.g. DA number, planning applic	ation title or referer	ice, property		
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John and Robin Leonard 74 Elgin Street GORDON NSW 2072

Telephone no. 9498 1526 Email: snowlore@bigpond.com

22 September 2011

The Director-General NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure 23-33 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Haddad

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank

I refer to the Environmental Assessment Report ("EAR") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd ("Achieve") seeking approval under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)* for a Concept Plan for 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

We object to the proposed Concept Plan because the EAR does not meet the Director-General's Requirements and in particular DGR 17 and 18.

Robin's family connection with Crowle Home

Robin is for her part making this submission objecting to the proposed Project as the grand-daughter of W. A. Crowle. In that regard, Robin says the heritage of the Crowle Home has been misrepresented. My grandfather W. A. Crowle purchased the property from the Denning family in 1944 for 5000 Pounds and established "Once Upon A Time Home" as a rehabilitation centre for delinquent boys who had passed through the Children's Courts. Inspiration for the boys' home stemmed-from his own childhood: for example, he requested that each boy have a reading light and no time for "lights out". W. A. Crowle gave help to many needy people and he was a true philanthropist. He built an assembly hall later became known as the Dulcie Johnson Hall. During 1946-1948, the Memorial Garden was built by W. A. Crowle. It is a miniature of the War Memorial in Coventry, England. The Garden was erected in memory of his brother, Walter Herbert Crowle, who died of wounds on The Somme on 25 August 1916. He is buried at the Puchevillers British War Cemetery. W. A. Crowle died in December 1948 and his ashes were placed in the antique sundial in the garden by his wife Lorna M. Crowle. Mr. Cecil Crowle (son of W. A. Crowle.) and Mrs Lorna

Crowle Trustees of Crowle Home wanted to find a purposeful use for the home after W. A. Crowle's death and in 1952 GIFTED it to the Sub-Normal Children's Welfare Association to provide children with intellectual disabilities more opportunities.

Based on everything we know, it was never the intention of Robin's Grandfather to see this gift become a money-making proposition for Achieve.

No consultation

We are concerned about Achieve's lack of consultation with families with residents at Crowle, and the omission to notify the EAR on exhibition to them so they could participate in the planning process.

Some planning objections

- 1) We wish for the property to be used for disabled and disadvantaged people. There will be dislocation of existing residents and only 5% of this development will be for disabled persons in the complex of 470 units with 584 parking spaces. This plan is totally unacceptable for these people to be able to navigate around.
- 2) The Heritage Curtilage is minimal. In Figure 5 of The Heritage Curtilage Study, the heritage area was much larger and included serviced yards and orchard area located north west of the house. Why has the heritage area been reduced? The Concept Plan shows overdevelopment of the Site with 2, 4, 6, 7 story unit blocks overshadowing the village green and heritage area. It was originally agreed under the merger of the Crowle Foundation and Achieve that only one third of the Site would be developed. What happened to this?
- 3) The proposed development will impact on the local amenity. The area is surrounded and characterised by low to medium residential buildings, school facilities and light industries. It is a quiet treed place and there will not be enough open space for the projected 789 people who will live here.

Robin does not believe it was ever her Grandfather's intention to help Ryde Council area to increase population density with 470 units on this beautiful space.

If this Site is to change, our preference is for Cluster Housing development creating a gathering point for the community and for people with disabilities. Sydney, and the Ryde area, needs these facilities.

Summary

The more we read Achieve's Concept Plan the more we realise its inappropriateness. There is overdevelopment of the Site; walls with up to 7 story unit blocks; a lack of amenity; displacement and dislocation of long term residents; and the destruction of the history and

heritage of the Site. In our opinion, in the name of greed. The only benefit is a money-making proposition for Achieve from a GIFT made to help disadvantaged and disabled people from Robin's grandfather, W. A. Crowle.

We are appalled that the Department would consider this Concept Plan for reasons set out above and especially given, among other things, its failing to address DGR 17 and 18, and in particular the social impact on individual residents of Crowle. We urge the Department to reject the proposed Concept Plan or request Achieve to address the issues raised in the DGR properly and in particular address the current and future needs of each individual resident.

Yours sincerely,

Robin Crowle Leonard

Yours sincerely,

John S. Leonard

Political Donations Disclosure Statement to Minister or the Director-General

If you are required under section 147(3) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to disclose any political donations (see Page 1 for details), please fill in this form and sign below.

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Political Donations Disclosure Statement to Minister or the Director-General

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Mrs June Madden 62a Moss Street WEST RYDE NSW 2114

22 September 2011

The Director-General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
23-33 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank

I object to the proposed Concept Plan on the ground the Environmental Assessment Report is inadequate and in particular because Achieve Australia Limited does not comply with the Director-General's Requirements and especially DGR 17 and 18.

Achieve never notified me that the EAR was on exhibition. I wish to be consulted in a genuine consultation process about the care and future care of my son at Crowle. In particular, Achieve must consider a range of options including Cluster Housing which is, in my opinion, the best option.

I write this letter as a supplementary letter in addition to my letter dated 10 September 2011 addressed to the Department and request that the two letters should be read together.

Yours sincerely

Mrs June Madden

June L. Elbadden

(Mrs.) June Madden 62a Moss Street West Ryde NSW 2114

APPLICATION NO. MP10 _0110 OBJECTION TO THE ABOVE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT - 74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde NSW

On 11th May 1952 the property at 76 Belmore Street, Ryde, was given to the Sub-Normal Children's Welfare Asson. (SCWA) for the sole use of intellectually disabled people.

Until the merger of the Crowle Foundation and Achieve Foundation, Crowle Home was an extremely happy home for the residents, some of whom had lived there for many of the ensuing 59 years.

The merger of these two entities was formalised on the 25.11.2008. However, a major decision of the Crowle parents/carers in the acceptance of this merger was the understanding that 1/3rd of the land would be sold and the money used to build purpose-built housing on site, to replace the ageing present buildings.

This promise has not been honoured – an enormous blow to the families who would not have agreed to the merger had they known their hopes would be dashed.

The proposed unit development will not provide suitable accommodation for our ageing people, many of whom are in need of specialist and ongoing care.

MY HISTORY OF INVOLVEMENT WITH CROWLE HOME

Sept. 1961 my 4-year old son was enrolled as a day student.

In 1978 he became a permanent resident, and 33 years later to the present time is still enjoying life at Crowle, and he has no wish to live in the wider community.

He is bussed daily to his work place in Mascot to a job he loves.

His meals are prepared on site.

In the '60's my late husband and I purchased a permanent bed at Crowle (bonds totalling six hundred pounds – calculated to be worth around \$70,000 in today's currency). This bed purchase was to ensure our son had a bed for life at Crowle.

Should one doubt the past happiness, care and love in this Home, I recommend reading the book "A Home of Distinction" by June Madden – a copy of which is in both the State and National Libraries. This will give insight to the years of endeavour and commitment by many to make Crowle the wonderful Home it has been renowned for. It covers the history from 1952-2000.

I am now an elderly mother of 81 years, and find this breach of commitment by Achieve Australia is causing me great distress.

Much is made of 'choice' for our intellectually disabled sons and daughters, but there is no choice when their home of many years is to be replaced with community living with its many pitfalls for people, who mostly can neither read nor write, and many with great difficulty in communicating.

The promised cluster housing on site would have kept the continuity of a loving home on a familiar site, by maintaining contact with companions of many years.

I draw attention to the new village-style development for the Lachlan residents at Macquarie, North Ryde, and also the new purpose-built accommodation at Hamlyn Terrace on the Central Coast for the ex residents of Peat Island. Each of the 10 homes in this latter complex has an outdoor area and many other desirable features, encompassing the needs of vulnerable intellectually disabled people. So there is now a precedent for this type of development.

Surely this is what the ageing residents of Crowle Home deserve to be built on their precious land – **NOT A 470 UNIT COMPLEX** which will house mostly people from the wider community.

TO HONOUR THE MEMORY AND INTENTIONS OF THE BENEVOLENT CROWLE FAMILY, THE PROPOSED UNIT DEVELOPMENT SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED.

Signed:

June L. Madden 10- 9-2011

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Phillip and Mary Roberts 15/158 Croydon Avenue CROYDON NSW 2133

Telephone no. 9799 2871

21 September 2011

The Director-General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
23-33 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank

We refer to the Environmental Assessment Report ("EAR") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd ("Achieve") seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for a Concept Plan for 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

We object to the proposed Concept Plan because the EAR is inadequate in that the EAR does not meet the Director-General's Requirements and in particular DGR 17 and 18.

About Patrick: a Crowle resident for 38 years

Patrick has been a resident at the Crowle Home for 38 years. In that time, he has made many friends. He has enjoyed a range of activities including dancing, tee ball, tenpin bowling, gym and on Saturday afternoons attends Merrymakers dance group. Since being resident at Crowle, in our opinion, Patrick has been very happy and contented. He looks forward to returning to Crowle after home visits.

Patrick is Mary's brother and Phillip's brother-in-law.

Mary's late Mother and our family were told Patrick was secure at Crowle because of his bed bond agreement.

Mary's late Mother and our family were told Patrick was secure at Crowle because of his bed bond agreement.

Since the merger of Crowle and Achieve, Patrick's friends have been moved into rented accommodation. We have heard from families how they consider these people have been neglected and their level of care is not up to standard. Patrick is worried he is leaving Crowle because his friends say how unhappy they are after leaving Crowle. They say to him they would rather be living back at Crowle. My family has noticed the condition of former Crowle residents and comment how they have deteriorated in appearance and do not appear happy as compared to before when they were at Crowle.

Because the original owners left the property for the sole purpose of providing a permanent place of residence for disabled people, we strongly object to the way Achieve plans to close Crowle with no thought given to the feelings of residents and their families. There was no mention at the meetings prior to the merger with Achieve of Achieve's intention to close Crowle.

No consultation

We were not consulted about the EAR currently on exhibition and found out about it by chance when talking to a family member. Achieve has not sought our views on the best options for Patrick's future care and welfare including his accommodation. We regard it as critical that we are consulted about how the proposed development on the Site affects Patrick and his needs, as well as needs of all Crowle residents and families. In our opinion, Patrick will be distressed to move from the Site and away from his friends, and will not cope with unfamiliar surroundings because he does not have sufficient life skills. Crowle is his home. Cluster housing on Site is a desirable future option for accommodating Patrick and other residents on Site.

Our recommendation

We strongly urge the Department to refuse the proposed Concept Plan or request that Achieve address its failing to comply with DGR 17 and 18 by genuinely consulting with families and friends of Crowle to that end, and in particular address the personal needs of Patrick and each other resident.

Yours sincerely Lokesta Phillip Polepts.

Philip and Mary Roberts

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Megan Poole 71 Pennant Parade EPPING NSW 2121

Phone: 98764048

Poole5@bigpond.net.au

The Director General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
GPO BOX 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10-0110-Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde

I refer to the Environmental Assessment Report ("EAR") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ("the Act") for a Concept Plan ("the Project") for the site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

I am writing this submission objecting to the proposed Project. The EAR has not adequately addressed the Director-General's Requirements and in particular DGR 17 and 18.

I disagree with the Concept Plan put forward by Achieve for high rise development on the land known as Crowle Home. This land was left to the people with disabilities in the Ryde area.

The disabled people in New South Wales have already had land sold out from underneath them, they are now in desperate need of safe, comfortable and purpose built homes to live in. Places like John Williams, Brush Farm and Gladesville Hospital are no longer used for people with disabilities.

We as the members of the Crowle Foundation voted for a Cluster Development to be built on the land known as Crowle Home. The men and women who lived there and called it home could be cared for in purpose built accommodation in the surroundings they love, feel secure and safe and continue to live with their friends.

The Concept Plan needs to explore the Cluster Housing form of accommodation for the subject development. I strongly support Cluster Housing on the site as part of Stage I of the development.

I ask for the opportunity to comment on any further documentation provided by Achieve as part of its application for this development. The consultation process to-date has been inadequate and does not meet the Director-General's Requirements. I wish to be involved in the consultation process and understand there are other families who also wish to be so involved. Consultation is a critical part of the process for residents, their families and other stakeholders and in particular to maintain the standards of care for residents and others such as my son, Christopher, who attends the workshop.

I was not notified of the EAR which is currently on exhibition as part of the Part 3A Concept Plan submitted to the Department by Achieve. I found out about it only when by coincidence I read the local newspaper. I then attended an information session on 8 September 2011 run by Achieve. I was most disappointed at how this so-called information session was conducted and it became clear to me that parents were not genuinely being consulted. I had of course had no involvement whatsoever in preparing the Concept Plan.

Many residents have been moved out and scattered in small groups, never to see their friends and familiar surroundings again. They were promised the world and are more alone than they have ever been before.

I take my son to Meadowbank every morning at 6.40am to be taken by Achieve Staff to their workshop at Marrickville, I then pick him up at the same place in the afternoon at 3.45pm. I have been doing this 5 days a week for 5 years. There is no communication with the upper management from Achieve, I don't know what is going to happen when they decide to develop the site: for example, where do I take my son to be taken to his work place? Is their going to be transport? Or does that mean he won't have any way of getting to Marrickville? The lack of communication with Achieve has always been a huge problem; it doesn't matter how many times this issue is discussed, things never change in that regard.

In conclusion:

The high rise in Meadowbank that is creeping up the hill from the river should stop at the gates of Crowle and let these vulnerable people keep their home.

Yours sincerely

m. Poole

Megan Poole

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APP:CRO:

6 September 2011

Mrs Lynette Allen 41 Thompson Street GLADESVILLE 2111

0408 970 806 allen_lyn@hotmail.com

The Director-General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
GPO BOX 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By Email: information@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 — Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde

Introduction

I refer to the Environmental Assessment ("EA") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ("the Act") for a Concept Plan ("the Project") for the Site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

I writing this submission objecting to the proposed Project

Background

The site listed above which has always been know as Crowle Homes was donated to disadvantaged / disabled people over 50 years ago.

It was intended for use as a haven for these people and up until recently it has served this purpose.

Crowle Homes has always been such a well respected organisation. Over the years many people from all walks of life have been more than happy to knit, bake and even donate monies and properties to 'Crowle Homes' This is because Crowle Homes had an excellent reputation for assisting people with disabilities. Many, many families were assured that their sons or daughters with disabilities would eventually live there. This was something that most families aspired to. So it is no surprise to know that these families made a point of doing everything they possibly could to ensure that Crowle Homes would continue to thrive. This was for the people who resided and 'worked' there as well as for the day when their son or daughter would of course move in and thereby ensure the remainder of their life was spent in this blessed haven. The ageing carers would then be assured that after they had passed away, their sons or daughters with disabilities would not lose everything, they would be able to continue to live and work with their lifelong friends. Because Crowle was and is 'their life'.

So what is the alternative? When the parents die, the person with disabilities may lose their family, their lifelong friends, their workplace and any network they have established during their lives. Please take a moment to consider how this would effect you...

Objections

1. Achieve Australia has promised that the people with disabilities leaving Crowle will move into the Community, be cared for and be given the support they need.

Unfortunately, this appears to be far from true. I have heard many horror stories of how these people are not cared for. I have heard that some with the intellect of a five year old are left to themselves and only receive a half hour of care most days. There are many other stories of concern and these have been documented.

- 2. At a recent public meeting, Achieve Australia told the people gathered there that many of the people with disabilities they 'care' for were only receiving block funding and that this was not adequate for their care. It was suggested by a member of the public that these people should then be reassessed. The response of the CEO of Achieve was that the government are not doing assessments for these people. When questioned about this, she chose not to answer and took another question. Achieve must fulfil their Duty of Care for these people now. It is Adhc policy to reasses all people with disabilities at regular intervals and they will most definitely do so, but Achieve Australia need to make this request...
- 3. Clients and families of those people working, residing and using the day care program are apparently not receiving any information about the proposals for the site. I have been told this by many, many families on many, many occasions. They also report that they have not been given any time frames for the closure of the services. I know that they have attempted to pursue this only to be ignored. Why are they not keeping these people in the loop? It appears that they are intentionally being kept in the dark?
- 4. At the public meeting I attended, Achieve Australia told the people gathered there that they, Achieve would be retaining 10% of the apartments built on the Crowle Homes site. They also said that some of the clients who are leaving Crowle will be coming back. (I have been told by many of the families involved that they are leaving against their will) A representative of Achieve Australia told me that Achieve would be retaining 10% and renting most of them out to the community. It appears that this site will not be used as a haven for disadvantaged or disabled people as it was originally intended, although the Crowle family donated it for this very purpose in good faith.

Social Impact Assessment issues

Accountability: Now this is an area which needs more attention, Monies have been are continuing to be paid for the care of the people who resided in Crowle Homes. Up until recently, many of these people had been receiving 24 hour care and also had the use of special buses and cars for their transport. This is where their funding was used and this of course was how it was intended to be used. Many of these people have been moved into the community. The numbers have gone down from 75 to 28. They have lost their friends, people who they have lived with all their lives, people who were in actual fact their 'family' not related as such, but without any living parents, they had become a close knit community. Now they live apart, some do not even go to the workshop any more, many report that they do not have much assistance at all. Reports indicate that there is a high degree of depression. They certainly do not have the use of the buses or cars they once had. I have also heard that there are some rather frightening issues concerning health, sanitation and safety. There are many issues to be addressed.

Planning Assessment Issues

How can you plan for the future when you do not look at the present?

How can you announce to the world that you are assisting People with Disabilities when those very people are being displaced and their lives are being thrown into turmoil?

Conclusion:

May I suggest a solution? Let these people have their homes back, let them live their lives in their haven. It was intended to be theirs and I believe it should remain so.

Yours sincerely

Lyn Allen

Disclosure statement details					
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Name(s) Lynete Ann	e Allen 20 Septen	nber 20	41		



16 September 2011

Mr J. Laird 23 Darwin Street West Ryde NSW 2114 Tel: 0414 726 812 Jim.laird@synergymcg.com

The Director-General
The Department of planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Mr Haddad,

Re: SUBMISSION OBJECTING TO MP10 0110 – Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street Ryde

In relation to the Environmental Assessment (EA) submitted to the NSW Department of planning & Infrastructure by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for a Concept Plan for the site at 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank.

My submission is to object to the proposed Project set out in the Concept Plan.

I am a resident of the area and a parent of a 29 year old intellectually disabled adult who attends programs run by Achieve Australia. My wife was a member for several years of the Crowle Foundation which previously owned the site at 74-76 Belmore Street Meadowbank, before Crowle was merged with another service provider to form Achieve Australia.

My understanding is that the property at 74-76 Belmore Street was left by the owners in the 1952 to be used for the benefit of people with a disability. Now we see it is to be developed as apartments for sale, about 450, with a small number to be allocated for people with a disability. Living in such a large complex is not suitable for these people. Once built upon and sold, the property can no longer be used for the purpose it was intended.

A more suitable development would be to sell a portion (say 30%) of the land and to build cluster style housing for people with intellectual disability on the major portion. The NSW Government has just this year allocated \$3 million to trial a small cluster housing development in Ryde.

In addition there are already a very large number of existing apartments and approval given for others in the surrounding area and this will result in excessive traffic problems.

James Laird

Disclosure statement details				
Name of person making this disclosure	a	lanning application reference (e.g. DA number, planning appl ddress or other description)		
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Name(s)	MES LAIRD			



(Mrs) Elaine Cater 19 Reynolds Street **TOONGABBIE NSW 2146**

APPLICATION NO. MP10_0110 OBJECTION TO THE ABOVE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT - 74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde NSW

On 11th May 1952 the property at 76 Belmore Street, Ryde, was given to the Sub-Normal Children's Welfare Asson. (SCWA) for the sole use of intellectually disabled people.

Until the merger of the Crowle Foundation and Achieve Foundation, Crowle Home was an extremely happy home for the residents, some of whom had lived there for many of the ensuing 59 years.

The merger of these two entities was formalised on the 25.11.2008. However, a major decision of the Crowle parents/carers in the acceptance of this merger was the understanding that 1/3rd of the land would be sold and the money used to build purpose-built housing on site, to replace the ageing present buildings.

This promise has not been honoured – an enormous blow to the families who would not have agreed to the merger had they known their hopes would be dashed.

The proposed unit development will not provide suitable accommodation for our ageing people, many of whom are in need of specialist and ongoing care.

MY HISTORY OF INVOLVEMENT WITH CROWLE HOME

In 1968 my daughter was enrolled at Crowle Home as a day student, later becoming a full-time resident, where she resides to the present day.

She has no wish to live in the wider community as Crowle Home IS her home.

Her meals are prepared on site – a special diet.

I purchased a permanent bed at Crowle (bonds totalling six hundred pounds – calculated to be worth around \$70,000 in today's currency) in the 1960's. This bed purchase was to ensure my daughter had a bed for life at Crowle.

Should one doubt the past happiness, care and love in this Home, I recommend reading the book "A Home of Distinction" by June Madden – a copy of which is in both the State and National Libraries. This will give insight to the years of endeavour and commitment by many to make Crowle the wonderful Home it has been renowned for. It covers the history from 1952-2000.

I am now an elderly mother in my eighties, and find this breach of commitment by Achieve Australia is causing me great distress.

Much is made of 'choice' for our intellectually disabled sons and daughters, but there is no choice when their home of many years is to be replaced with community living with its many pitfalls for people, who mostly can neither read nor write, and many with great difficulty in communicating.

The promised cluster housing on site would have kept the continuity of a loving home on a familiar site, by maintaining contact with companions of many years.

I draw attention to the new village-style development for the Lachlan residents at Macquarie, North Ryde, and also the new purpose-built accommodation at Hamlyn Terrace on the Central Coast for the ex residents of Peat Island. Each of the 10 homes in this latter complex has an outdoor area and many other desirable features, encompassing the needs of vulnerable intellectually disabled people. So there is now a precedent for this type of development.

Surely this is what the ageing residents of Crowle Home deserve to be built on their precious land - NOT A 470 UNIT **COMPLEX** which will house mostly people from the wider community.

TO HONOUR THE MEMORY AND INTENTIONS OF THE BENEVOLENT CROWLE FAMILY, THE PROPOSED UNIT E de later 11 9 2011 DEVELOPMENT SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED. Signed:

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Signature(s) and Date	natur 11-9-2011				4
Name(s) ELAINE CH	CH TER.				



JENNIFER MASSEY
2 DENHAM PLACE
DUNDAS NSW 2117

12 September 2011

Re: APPLICATION NO. MP10_0110 74 - 76 Belmore Street, Ryde

OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I wish to object very strongly to the proposed re-development of the above site.

I have known my uncle all my life, and I know how happy he is living at Crowle Home.

I know this land was given to the Sub-Normal Children's Association in 1952 to be used to help intellectually disabled children at the property. To re-develop this site with the proposed 470 units is definitely not what the Crowle family who donated the land would have wanted.

This re-development must not proceed -I think the land should be used for purpose-built homes on the site for the remaining residents, and to provide homes for future generations of other intellectually disabled people.

Signed:

Name: // Jennif

Date: 12 September 2011

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16 September 2011

Mr S. Laird 23 Darwin Street West Ryde NSW 2114 Tel: 0414 726 812 Jim.laird@synergymcg.com

The Director-General
The Department of planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Mr Haddad,

Re: SUBMISSION OBJECTING TO MP10 0110 – Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street Ryde

I refer to the Environmental Assessment (EA) submitted to the NSW Department of planning & Infrastructure by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for a Concept Plan for the site at 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank.

I am writing this submission to object to the proposed project.

I am a resident of the area and a parent of a 29 year old intellectually disabled adult who attends programs run by Achieve Australia. I was a member for many years of the Crowle Foundation which previously owned the site at 74-76 Belmore Street Meadowbank, before Crowle was merged with another service provider, Achieve Australia.

My understanding is that the property at 74-76 Belmore Street was left by the owners in the 1952 to be used for the benefit of people with a disability. I had hoped my son would be able to live on site with friends in cluster housing with supervision and care, as promised in the merger. Now we see it is to be developed as apartments for sale, about 470, with a small number allocated for people with a disability. Living in a large complex with people who are mostly renting and from other cultures is not suitable for our people with a disability. Once built upon and sold, the property can no longer be used for the purpose it was intended, and then there will be nowhere for young adults like my son to live, except with ageing parents.

The decision by Achieve Australia to develop the land totally for apartments was made by the Achieve Australia board together with a very small number of members of Achieve. The large number of members of the Crowle Foundation were parents of or represented people with a disability who received services from Crowle. Prior to the merger it was expected these members would have a say in decisions by Achieve, but this is now not the case.

A more suitable development would be to sell a portion (say 30%) of the land which was agreed before the merger with Achieve occurred. Then cluster style housing could be built for people with intellectual disability on the major portion of the land. The NSW Government has just this year allocated \$3 million to trial a small cluster housing development in Ryde.

In addition, as a local resident, there are already a very large number of existing apartment blocks located in a small area in Meadowbank or Shepherds Bay, as it is now called and approval given for others nearby. This will result in excessive traffic problems and with so many people living in this small area I forsee many other kinds of problems for the council to address.

Sandra Laird

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Signature(s) and Date	11/6/61				
Name(s) Sandra Lyll	AIRD				



Gailene Massey 2 Denham Place DUNDAS NSW 2117

12 SEPTEMBER 2011

Re: APPLICATION NO. MP10_0110 74 - 76 Belmore Street, Ryde

OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I wish to object very strongly to the proposed re-development of the above site.

Crowle Home has been my brother's life since 1961, when he commenced there as a day pupil. For the past 33 years he has been a resident, and has always been extremely happy in this environment.

My parents purchased a 'bed' contract at considerable expense for my brother in order for him to spend the duration of his lifetime at Crowle Home.

This wonderful land was given to the Sub-Normal Children's Association in 1952 for the sole use of intellectually disabled children. To re-develop this site with the proposed 470 units is a travesty of the intentions of the philanthropic Crowle family who donated this land.

This re-development must not proceed - the land should be used for purposebuilt homes, on the site, for the remaining ageing residents, and to provide homes for future generations of intellectually disabled people.

Signed:

Name:

Gailene Massey

Date:

12 September 2011

Garlen Many

Must are required under sention 447/3 of the Environmental Stantion and Sessement Art 1079 in classings any political donations (see Page 1 for datalix), please fill in this form and sign below

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RICHARD MASSEY 2 DENHAM PLACE DUNDAS NSW 2117

12 SEPTEMBER 2011

Re: APPLICATION NO. MP10_0110 74 - 76 Belmore Street, Ryde

OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I wish to object very strongly to the proposed re-development of the above site.

I have known my brother-in-law for over 30 years during which time he has lived at Crowle Home, and I have personally seen how happy he is living there.

This wonderful land was given to the Sub-Normal Children's Association in 1952 for the sole use of intellectually disabled children. To re-develop this site with the proposed 470 units is a travesty of the intentions of the philanthropic Crowle family who donated this land.

This re-development must not proceed - the land should be used for purposebuilt homes, on the site, for the remaining ageing residents, and to provide homes for future generations of intellectually disabled people.

Signed:

Name:

Richard Massey

Date:

12 September 2011

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PHILLIP MASSEY
2 DENHAM PLACE
DUNDAS NSW 2117

12 September 2011

Re: APPLICATION NO. MP10_0110 74 - 76 Belmore Street, Ryde

OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

I wish to object very strongly to the proposed re-development of the above site.

I know this land was given to the Sub-Normal Children's Association in 1952 to be used to help intellectually disabled children at the property. To re-develop this site with the proposed 470 units is definitely not what the Crowle family who donated the land would have wanted.

I have known my uncle all my life and I know how happy he is living at Crowle Home.

This re-development must not go ahead – I think the land should be used for new purpose-built homes on the site for the remaining residents, and to provide homes for future generations of other intellectually disabled people.

Signed:

Name:

Phillip Massey

Date:

12 September 2011

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Name(s)	MARKEY				



16 September 2011

Name: Margaret Gardiner Address: 5 Lucinda Ave; Georges Hall 2198 Mobile:0438756712

Email: marg-g@hotmail.com

The Director General.
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001
By Email: information@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10-0110-Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde

Introduction

I refer to the Environmental Assessment ("EA") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ("the Act") for a Concept Plan ("the Project") for the Site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site")

I am writing this submission objecting to the proposed Project.

Background:

In May 1952, The Crowle Home and surrounding land was given to use as a home and educational facility for intellectually disabled people.

There for the current proposed development and sale of this land to members of the wider community does not comply with the wishes of the Crowle Family back then, or now.

Merger of Crowle Foundation with Achieve Foundation (Nov. 2008)

In 2008 many members of the Crowle Foundation ,after much discussions with the current board regarding cash flow problems and even a possible collapse of the organisation voted on the merger of the two organisations. Many members were very fearful of such a collapse and believed there to be no other option. At the time of the merger, myself and all other members were lead to believe that the merged organisation would continue with the already discussed plans of selling 1/3 of the Crowle Home Site to fund cluster style housing, at 76 Belmore St; Meadowbank for the continued use of our families. Unfortunately at the time Crowle Members had no Legal representation at this meeting which meant this promise was not documented.

Since this merger/takeover we Crowle Foundation members are no longer members and we are very isolated and kept in the dark with regards to the care of our disabled families and their proposed future. The Cluster Housing which we thought we were promised has been seen as being successful in allowing intellectually disabled people to live with their lifelong friends and continue to participate, very actively in the wider community activities and yet be safe and recieve the care and attention as required.

MY STORY

My Twin sisters Beverley and Susan Stott have been residents and currently still are residents of CROWLE HOME. They have been living there for the past 40 years and that is their home. Both sisters are classified as being Moderately Intellectually disabled and would compare to an average 8 to 10 year old. They are currently 57 years old.

My mother ,a widow at the time with 6 children made the decision that Crowle home would be the best opportunity for both Beverley and Susan as it gave a <u>Guarantee that they would always be cared for at 76 Belmore St Meadowbank.</u> With this guarantee in writing my mother then paid, what was back then a very large amount of money to secure their beds for life. Up until the merger in Nov 2008 there was never any reason to believe that Beverley and Susan wouldn't continue living at Crowle Home and being surrounded by their comrades ,having secure grounds, to be able to relax in, a swimming pool to practice for their carnivals, be able to be involved in the wider community in many activities all the time knowing they were safe and being cared for in the best possible way by caring staff, who are like family to both Beverley and Susan.

This contractual obligation for Beverley and Susan to continue living at Crowle Home was passed on to Achieve Australia at the time of the merger with Crowle Foundation 3 years ago. To date Achieve Australia has completely ignored this obligation which has left Beverley and Susans aged mother in a state of dis belief and a huge worry as to what will happen to her girls?

OBJECTIONS.

Crowle home has provided care and support to the intellectually disabled in very much the same way as aged care residents are cared for in their aged care facilities. Both Beverley and Susan have health issues, just as the aged have facilities to care for their needs , Crowle home provides that care for its disabled residents. Both Beverley and Susan lack many of the basic skills such as literacy, they have difficulty with speech at times, and the most worrying of all is the ability to be able to protect themselves from unwanted advances, if left alone. Would you then want these girls living in a community house with only drop in support?

Beverley and Susan have always participated very actively in their wider community while living at Crowle. Both girls travel 5 days a week off site to work which they love. During the week the play ten pin bowling, attend the local club for Line Dancing and Susan goes to the local community college for drama classes. Weekends are taken up by shopping and lunch at their local shopping centre and on Sundays they both play T ball and used to swim at many carnivals. There is also sailing in the summer and any other activity that is available they will be part of it.

These activities have been enjoyed immensely by Beverley and Sue because of the fact they have shared them all with their friends of over 40 years and the dedicated staff who make sure they are ready to go. Over the last 3 years we have noticed a lack of enthusiasm to attend some events as they no longer have all their friends to travel and join in with. Neither Beverley or Susan can understand why their friends are no longer living with them at Crowle Home or why they don't get to see them at activities, because once they are moved out in to the community it has become apparent they aren't attending all the activities and are becoming isolated in the community with watching television becoming their main entertainment.

Both Beverley and Susan have lead an amazing full happy safe life living as residents at Crowle Home. Their Intellectual disability has been well documented and their health needs have always been met by the most amazing and caring staff , they have been nurtured and supported all the way. So too have the family. We have had every faith in knowing the girls are safe and happy. If this is working so well WHY CHANGE IT. Allow the cluster homes to be built on site and those existing residents, as well as many more in the future will continue to live a rich and fulfilled life , just as I am sure we want for all our children. How do you tell two intellectually disabled girls that they have to pack up and move out of the only home they have known?

An Aging Community:..

A large number of the existing Crowle residents are over 50. Beverley and Susan are 57 years old and along with their intellectual disability they are starting to show signs of aging. There are signs of arthritis and slowing mobility and these are only going to get worse over time. With the sale and development of the Crowle site there is no capacity to cater for the aging population so Beverley and Susan, along with others will be forced to find full time care in an already over stretched aged care industry. Beverley or Susan do not own their own home so will never be able to afford to buy a bed in an aged care facility so they will be needing support from the government. Wouldn't it make sense to

keep the Crowle land for cluster homes and aged appropriate dwellings and that way you are keeping the higher support residents together?

Para 7.15.2 -5th paragraph of the Environment Assessment Report states that while other residents of higher support needs will need to be accommodated in other homes within Achieve Australia's Community living service. This by definition means Crowle residents of higher support, which will include Beverley and Susan will be isolated in a community home or be placed in a nursing home as their needs will be too high for Achieve to support them. Beverley and Susan's aged and unwell mother and the remainder of their family would much prefer that they remain on the Crowle site where we know they will be well cared for and supported, particulary as they become aged.

Accommodation Model:

Para 7.15.2 table - "Other" on page 73 of the Environment Assessment report states that Achieve's concept Plan Application is part of its participation in the NSW Government initiatives to fund closure of large Residential Centres (LRC).

Regarding this statement

- 31 Residents living at Crowle Home does not comply with the definition of a large Residential Centre.
- 2. In recent years the Government has been instrumental in overseeing purpose built accommodation for intellectually disabled residents. Two such examples of these are Hamlyn Terrace on the Central Coast for ex Peat Island residents and a new village style development for Lachlan residents at Macquarie, Ryde NSW. There are many other examples of village-style or cluster- style developments where the needs of vulnerable intellectually disabled residents' are met and they were able to maintain their lifelong friendships.

Adaptable Housing:

Para7.15.5 mentions that " 10% of the dwellings will be designated as 'adaptable housing' to suit the needs of individual residents, <u>some of whom</u> may be in supported accommodation". In other words the percentage of adaptable housing is no higher than any other housing development. It does not take into consideration that any Achieve/Crowle residents who are lucky enough to be able to maintain Crowle as their life long home, may increase the developments requirements for adaptable housing.

Community Involvement:

Para 8.1 of the social impacts Assessment: in the second paragraph it states that people with disability should ,so far as possible, live in and be part of the community rather than live in institutional care.

Ever since Beverley and Susan have been residents of Crowle Home they have been very involved in the local and wider community. During their schooling at Crowle they joined in all community activities and now that they are working,off site 5 days a week they are even busier.

On a weekly basis both girls :play 10 pin bowling at the local bowling alley, attend line dancing at the local club, Susan attends a community college for drama classes. They both go shopping every Saturday to the local community shopping centre where they purchase their goods and have lunch. Play T ball every sunday

Over the years the both girls have participated in netball carnivals and gala days, swimming carnivals around the state, camps in various locations and T ball carnivals. None of these events were held at Crowle and they all involved the wider community.

As well as this the girls go to the local movie theatre, to shows in town, salling when available, To the local club, rides on the ferry ,the Royal Easter show , walks around their area for fitness etc. the list goes on and on and this has all been made possible by the support from Crowle Foundation and the caring staff of Crowle Home. Living at Crowle Home has certainly not restricted Beverley or Susan from participating in or being part of the community. In fact on some weekends it's hard to visit the girls as they are busy with a community activity.

Beverley and Susan travel to the far North Coast each year to visit their elderly mother. While there they swim in the local pool on a daily basis, visit the local club and join in all the Christmas celebrations the community has to offer. After being away for a few days both girls are keen to know when they are returning to their home at Crowle and all their friends.

Limited Living Skills:

Para 8.1 of the social impact assessment also discusses limited living skills as a consequence of living in a "congregate care setting"

Do Achieve Australia believe that suddenly and by moving Beverley and Susan out into a community home, with limited supervision, that their living skills will improve. Both Beverley and Susan are 57 years old and have moderate intellectual disability. For 40 years and under the guidance and care of The Crowle Foundation and their caring staff Beverley and Susan have embarked on many training and teaching sessions to improve their living skills and be independent. Some of these have been successful but many have not and these skills will never be learnt no matter where they are living. This is due to their disability not "Living in Congregate Care.

Beverley and Susan love their home at Crowle and help out as much as possible but as far as being able to live independently and care for themselves with very limited supervision is out of the question. Achieve Australia have been in operation for the last 3 years and in this time we have had ONE meeting with them regarding Beverley and Susan and in that time no training or improvements have been made to the girls living skills. How then do they believe that by moving them out of the only home they know and into a community house are these skills going to improve.

As well as improving their living skills Achieve Australia want these disabled residents to be able to make decisions for themselves. Well you ask Beverley and Susan where they want to live and they will tell you that CROWLE IS BEST and that is their home.

Condusion:

The land at 74- 76 Belmore street, Meadowbank was given for the sole purpose of housing and educating the disabled. Let this continue by objecting to Achieve Australia Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and assessment Act 1979("the act") for a Concept Plan ("the Project") for the site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the site") and allow Cluster housing or village style accomadation, with aged care appropriate dwellings so that the existing residents of Crowle Home can continue to live their life in their home and many others in the future.

Kind Regards

Margaret Gardiner



Louise Gardiner 92 Lucinda Ave,

Georges Hall NSW 2197

The Minister for Planning and Local Government

The 'Concept Plan' for the Crowle Home (Proposed Development in North Ryde)

Dear Minister,

I am writing to you to object to the proposed development of the Crowle Home site - Ryde.

One of the fundamental points that have been overlooked in the submission is the moral duty to the existing residents at Crowle home. Much mention has been made regarding the new facilities that could be available when some of the residents might return but this probably not going to happen.

Once the existing residents have been turfed out there will be no return for them.

I have extended family members who live at Crowle home at this present time.

Their immediate family is devastated by this proposal.

Pardmer

They are not happy with the so called liason between them and Achieve Australia .

The individual needs and preferences of their children have not been met!

Many of the existing residents are in the 50+ age group and will be unable to fit the pipe dream of social workers who think it will work for them ,being uprooted to new areas, new communities, new housing , new work transport issues and away from their familiar surroundings.

They in turn have aging parents who already find it difficult to come to their rescue if things go wrong. While their children have been under the protective banner of the Crowle Home they know that their needs have been looked after.

The community and those that have the power have an obligation to these residents to stop their eviction .

Yours Sincerely,

Louise Gardiner



APP:CRO:

16 September 2011

Name: Mr John Glissan Address: 4 Yvonne Cres Georges Hall, NSW, 2198 Telephone No: 9727 7370

The Director-General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
GPO BOX 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001
By Email: information@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Haddad,

I am writing this submission as a direct objection to MP10 $_$ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde

I refer to the Environmental Assessment ("EA") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ("the Act") for a Concept Plan ("the Project") for the Site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

The Site74-76 Belmore Street Meadowbank also known as Crowlecurrently provides housing for a number of persons with an intellectual disability many of whom are in their late 50's and have called Crowle their home for more than half of their lives. All of these vulnerable mentally disabled people will be displaced by the proposed development, they will not only lose their home, but they will also lose theirsense of security, their friends and carers who have become like a second family to them. I have a personal connection with two of the residents currently living at Crowle home and I believe that will be disadvantaged by the proposed development that Achieve Australia has submitted to "The Department".

The property that houses Crowle Home was specifically willed for the purpose of providing a safe environment, accommodation and education in for its disabled residents, if this development proposal is accepted that will no longer be a possibility. Rather than redeveloping the land and building 470 dwellings that will be sold to the wider community, this site would be better suited to be redeveloped specifically for the use of people with disabilities. This land is large enough to build cluster homes for all of the current

residents of Crowle as well as many others, which could also incorporate disabled aged care facilities. This would allow Achieve Australia to meet the individual needs physically and mentally of the current disabled residents as well as other people with disabilities and continue to provide the individually nurturing care that each of them deserve.

In conclusion, I strongly object to the re-development of the Crowle Home Site, Ryde and Achieve Australia's proposed plans. I would ask that you re-assess and re-address the actual needs of the people who have lived on this site for so long and re-develop the buildings for the original willed intended purpose, that of the sole use of social, health and housing of the intellectually disabled.

Yours sincerely

John Glissan



16th September, 2011

Mrs Robyn Chapman, Lot 34, Kirkton Road, Lower Belford . N.S.W. 2335. email: rc22kc@hotmail.com

Dear Mr Haddad.

Introduction

I refer to the Environmentas Assessment (EA) submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure (the Department) by Achieve Australid Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (the Act) for a Concept Plan (the Project) for the site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Medowbank (the Site)

I am writing this submission objecting to the proposed Project.

Background

In May 1952, the Crowle Home and surrounding land was given to use as a home and educational facilities for intellectually disabled people. The proposed development and sale of this land to members of the wider community is not in accordance with the wishes of the Crowle family back then, or now.

Merger of Crowle Foundation with Achieve Foundation (Nov 2008)

Many of the members of Crowle Foundation voted for the merger of these two organizations because the current management at the time, instilled fear into the members by talking about cash flow problems within Crowle and the possibility of collapse of the organization if the merger did not go ahead. The members were lead to believe that the merged organization would sell 1/3 of the Crowle Home site to fund cluster housing for our family members. Lack of any legal representation at that time for Crowle members meant that this promise was not documented. Over time the "merger" resembles more of a "takeover" and Crowle Foundation members find that they no longer have a voice in the care of their intellectually disabled family members. (In the past 10 months there has only been 1 meeting of Achieve management with Crowle resident family members). There are many successful examples of cluster housing that have allowed intellectually disabled people a home with lifelong friends, where they can fully participate in community activities and yet stay safe, and receive the nurturing care that they require.

My Story;

My sisters Beverley and Susan Stott have been a resident of Crowle Home for the past **41** years. They are still residents of Crowle Home today. They have been classified as Moderately intellectually impaired and Schizophrenia, there intellectual ability can be compared to a **5 or 6 year old.**

Apon the girls entering Crowle Home in 1971 my mother was a widower with 6 children at that time money was scarce, but she paid what was a large amount so that Beverley and Susan could be looked after, she signed an agreement which promised to provide them with a home at Crowle Home for the rest of there life. Up untill the time of the merger of Crowle Foundation with Achieve in November 2008, living at Crowle Home ment that the girls were provided with safe, secure grounds where they could wander, be surrounded by there friends and a swimming pool for exercise. The care and nurturing from long term staff provided them with a safe and happy living environment much lide a real family over the years.

Objections

(1)
Just as Aged Care facilities provide care for the elderly in Nursing Homes to accomadate there mental and physical needs (eg dementia) Crowle Home has provided cared and safe secured grounds supervised to attend to all the intellecual needs that girls require in a safe home like manner (would you leave your 5 or 6 year old in a house in the community with only drop-in support?) I should think NOT.

I can only go on what the girls say, and they are adamant that they are not moving anywhere, they are staying at Crowle Home .

I feel that most of the residents of Crowle Home are becomming an aging population and I feel that the site of Crowle Home would better suit these clients by providing them with suitable accommodation on the current site to see out there agreement of providing accommodation for the rest of there life, that was the agreement.

In the past, I spent 5 years working in a Sheltered Workshop for the Intellectually impared clients of the community, I know first hand that those clients are not provided with supervised and safe supervision on a 24/7 basis regardless of what Achieve say. Intellectual handicapped people require a stable routine, I know for a fact that on many occasions that carers have **Not turned up to escort there client to and from work**, which is very distressing to the client as they either wander them selves to and from work or they stay home. On 2 occasions that I know off 2 were sexually assulted on there way home from work and 1 was hit by a train. All 3 clients were living in a group home where there was no supervision, at the time there was a lack of communication between staff and the result was on the client that was supposed to be looked after and safe...

(3) Closure of large residential centres by the NSW Government.

Why is it that their is Over 50's retirement style living in a secured security sites for our retirement population in purposily built accommodation eg; village-style or cluster- style housing of up to 1,000's of sites accross Australia but Achieve want to provide there Clients with community housing with a mixed population with the only security is the opening of the front door. I feel that Achieve have there proirity's wrong. Just because the surrounding area to Crowle land is all high rise apartments and the dollar value would be better for Crowle land to add to the high rise, in the interest of the residents of Crowle Home would not get any benifit to adding to this high rise trend. It might look good from the air and the money value, but in the interest and safety of the residents would greatly impact on there valuable lives.

Community Involvement

I do agree that the Intellectually impaired clients do contribute in the community, both girls attend a wide range of sporting activities and and regularly visit there local coffee clubs swim and shopping centres, none of these were confined to Crowle Home, they were all community activities with the supervision of the great staff.

In there working environment both girls contribute to the community in a wide range of workshop style employment, which from my experience is very hard working people that all they want to do is there very best at what they do, they thrive on praise for a job well done. To the normal working person the tasks are ofter repitish and tedious and the pay is not very much for the effort that they put in. (sometimes questionable slave labour)

In my expience from taking the girls on outings in the wider community, the girls themselves are normal people just wanting to do the normal every day outings, but what they don't understand is

that its the community that don't understand the girls or people with intellectual deficient disorder, the looks that you get, the comments you here, Its the community that need the training to accept the intellectually impaired, not the other way round.

In Summary

I strongly object to the Crowle Home site being re-structured to the high-rise appartment blocks just for the money value of the land. I feel the land would be better suited in a total security village-style development where intellectually disabled residents were able to maintain their life-long friendship, incorporating the needs of vulnerable intellectually disabled people, with the security and protection to which they are acustom to on that same site.

Most of the Clients of Crowle would be lucky to have 10 to 20 years life left, yet the site would be there forever, Achieve should let them live out there lives on that land and later the land will still be there in years to come to re-structure for the next generation of intellectual impaired clients.

Yours sincerly

Robyn Chapman.



APP:CRO:

6 September 2011

Name: Joanne Glissan Address: 35 Markham St Holsworthy NSW, 2173

Telephone No: 9731 1093

Email Address: joanneglissan@hotmail.com

The Director-General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
GPO BOX 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

By Email: information@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Haddad,

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde

Introduction

I refer to the Environmental Assessment ("EA") submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure ("the Department") by Achieve Australia Pty Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 ("the Act") for a Concept Plan ("the Project") for the Site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

I am writing this submission objecting to the proposed Project

Background

The site 74-76 Belmore Street, Ryde is currently known as Crowle. This two hectare site contains a historic home known as Crowle Home which was donated to people with a disability by the family of a philanthropist who had allowed disadvantaged children to live there. Currently this house is the home to approximately 31 disabled residents whom Achieve wish to move into community housing. This is the site and a home which Achieve wishes to knock down and redevelop into 470 dwellings and sell off to the public, which goes against the initial proposed usage of the land.

In 2008 The Crowle Foundation merged with the Achieve Foundation to become Achieve Australia against the better judgement of Crowle's stakeholders. Since then the residents and their families' wishes seem no longer to be a priority and this is evident by Achieves plan to redevelop this site. As a condition of the merger and in order to raise some much needed funds there was a proposal to sell off 1/3 of the land which members reluctantly agreed to. However, since the merger has taken place the real development proposals have come to light and Achieve have now announced that they are planning to sell the entire land.

My twin Aunts Beverley and Susan Stott both currently reside at Crowle Home and this has been their home for the past 40 years. Both Beverley and Susan are 57 years of age. They have been diagnosed with an intellectual disability and have the mental capacity of an 8-10 year old. Although they are able to provide self-care in regards to dressing, toileting and grooming, they are very reliant on the help of a carer for all other major tasks on a daily basis and require full time care. Beverley and Susan are both very happy and have lived very full and rich lives during their time at Crowle, they have formed some very close friendships with other residents and have a strong bond with many of the long term carers.

Objections

I strongly object to the plan to displace of all current residents from their home at CrowleRyde in order to re-develop the land and sell it off to the wider community. Crowle home and its surrounding land was donated for the purpose of housing, educating and accommodating people with disabilities and to date that has been the case. This land rightly belongs to people with disabilities and in keeping with the devolution policy this land should be put to better use and redeveloped for disabled persons into purpose built community housing for the current residents at Crowle as well as many others who have been on a waiting list for years trying to gain access to this facility. Although I believe that devolution may be the best solution for some people with disabilities, I strongly believe that it is not the best case for my Aunts and several other residents at Crowle. Several of these occupants are between the ages of 50 and 70 and require round the clock care. Placing them in community housing within the greater public with only minimal drop in care is downright dangerous and criminal.

Although Achieve Australia have stated that they are working closely with the families, they are unable to give us any clear and accurate information regarding the futures of our loved ones. We have no signed or binding documentation referring to the continuing care of our family members once the development takes place. Achieve have shown that they have no respect for binding documentation as they are refusing to take on the obligations of an official undertaking carrying the commonwealth seal of the sub-normal children's welfare association which was entered into 1971 by my Grandmother who paid a significant sum of money guaranteeing that both Beverley and Susan will be cared for at" Crowle Home" for the remainder of their lives.

In 1999 the then minister for the Department of Community Services Ageing and Disabilities announced the government's plans to devolve institutions and rehouse the residents in smaller community housing in accordance with the Disability Services Act. Achieve Australia own the land on which Crowle Home lies which currently houses 31 residents, if government policy states that it is in the best interests of people with disabilities to move out into group or cluster housing then why are Achieve choosing to rent properties for their remaining residents with no long term guarantees rather than develop purpose builtaccommodation on this land that they already own.

Social Impact Assessment issues

The Social Impact Report states that Achieve has had extensive consultation with residents and their families regarding the ongoing care of residents. This is an outright lie! We have had one meeting in 2010 regarding the possibility of moving my Aunts out into the community and the two members of Achieve who conducted this meeting (both of whom are no longer associated with Achieve) were unable to answer any of our questions and give us any guarantees about the ongoing care of my Aunts.

Section 8.1 Dislocation of current residents;

Increased community inclusion

Currently both Beverley and Susan have a very full and rich life. Every week Beverley and Susan attend several activities and engage in outings in the community. They both work five days a week, four out of five evenings a week they attend activities of their choosing for a term at a time such as ten pin bowling, line dancing, ballroom dancing and community college, just to name a few. On Saturdays they are taken shopping to one of their three local shopping centres and on Sundays Beverley attends church and Susan plays tee-ball. When my Aunts are moved out in the community we are unsure how this will increase or even be maintained as they will be unable to afford to pay for transport to and from activities and we are unsure when carers would be available to take them shopping for example which is a simple task that they are mentally unable to do themselves without assistance.

Physical environment tailored to the functional needs of the residents

Placing disabled people in a modified house in the community is a far cry from aphysical environment tailored to the functional needs of the residents. What these people need is consistency, routine and familiarity for them to function at all. Throughout both Beverley and Susan's medical assessments written by medical professionals including psychologists, psychiatrists and general practitioners, it is clearly stated that they do not cope well with change and any alteration in their routine can result in extremely challenging behaviour as they try to adapt. Keeping them on the land in which they have grown up on in a familiar, and safe environment is in their best interests, functionally, physically and mentally.

Preserve existing relationships

Regardless of Achieves promises to preserve existing relationships it is evident that this is not the case with several previous residents whom have already made the transition into community living. They no longer regularly attend their weekly activities and have even missed out on large events such as the Crowle annual fete as there are no staff members available to take them. Beverley and Susan have lost contact with almost every resident who has already moved out and this is very sad.

Allow for and promote ageing in place for those people with high level complex health care needs

The average age of the residents currently residing at Crowle is approximately 60 and with their intellectual disabilities sadly, several of them have a shorter life span than the average person and therefore will age more quickly and require more care. Why would Achieve recommend moving them out to the community in scattered housing when in the not so distant future they will quite possible need to be moved again to more appropriate housing to accommodate their changing needs as they age and deteriorate? Many of the residents would not be able to afford to buy a bed in a nursing home and will then rely on the government for financial support. Redeveloping the Crowle site would be a much smarter idea, as cluster homes could be set up with ageing in mind with the possibility of creating separate living quarters depending on the level of care required, similarly to that of retirement villages (independent living, partial care and full time care). This would allow Achieve to continue provide quality care and to meet the individual needs of each resident to whom they have a legal moral and ethical responsibility.

In conclusion I wish to restate my position and strongly object to the development proposal to redevelop this land that was originally donated for the use of people with disabilities. I urge you to reassess the needs of the individual residents who will be displaced as a direct result of this development and consider their needs and best interests.

Yours sincerely

Alissan

Joanne Glissan





ANNE CLEMENTS & ASSOCIATES PTY. LIMITED (ABN 41 077 242 365, ACN 077 160 939) Environmental and Botanical Consultants PO Box 1623, North Sydney 2059

Phone: (02) 9955 9733, Facsimile: (02) 9957 4343

Email: mail@acabotanic.com

23 September 2011

The Director-General
Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

RE: Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 - Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank

Dear Mr Haddad,

I object to the proposed Concept Plan submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure by Achieve Australia Limited. The Environmental Assessment Report does not appear to meet the Director-General's Requirements, in particular DGR 17 and 18.

Crowle Home has been long-term stable happy secure home and the long-term home for about 100 intellectually disabled individuals. Having been on holidays with one of the resident and her sister last summer, she had responsibility and developmental level of about 4 to 5 year child, requiring adult supervision and intellectual age-appropriate stimulation.

Under the new management by Achieve, the future and suitability of home for the existing residents is now questionable. The new management is causing distress to my friend and her disabled sister with an apparent decrease in level of care. There have been repeated attempts by Achieve to move my friend sister to independent housing. Like all parents and relatives of the Crowle Home individuals, that I have met, my friend worries about her sister's future. There has been one uninformative meeting about the proposed concept. The concept plan itself does not present any information on the security for present and future care of these mentally and physically disabled residents of the Crowle Home. The concept plan is for non-purpose built flat and large number of car spaces. The residents of Crowle Home do not drive cars. The residents have problems crossing roads unaccompanied.

From my search of the Local History section of Ryde Library, in May 1952, Mr WA Crowle donated 1.6 ha and the home for use as a home for intellectually disabled people. There are numerous photographs of the social functions and happy events at the Crowle Home in the library collection.

My primary objection to the proposed Concept Plan is that the proposed development reduces the stock of residential accommodation and day time facilities for intellectually and physically disabled individuals both in the Ryde area and

Sydney more generally. The existing Crowle Home's accommodation and facilities urgently needs upgrading and more specialist staff to meet the requirements of its residents in 2011, not removal of this important facility.

More places are required for these mentally, and often physically, disabled individuals, not less and not developments that don't meet their needs. The only other alternative for these mentally and physically disabled individuals is an aged nursing home, which is neither appropriate nor readily available. Expansion and upgrading of existing facilities and suitable accommodation of Crowle Home for these special-needs individuals is urgently required.

Appropriate housing and facilities for metally and physical disabled individuals is not being considered in this concept plan. The concept plan is causing unnecessry distress to Crowle Home residents and their families.

Yours faithfully

Dr Anne Marie Clements

Political Donations Disclosure Statement to Minister or the Director-General

If you are required under section 147(3) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to disclose any political donations (see Page 1 for details), please fill in this form and sign below.

Disclosure statement details						
Name of person making this disclosure		Planning application re	eference (e.g. DA number, p	lanning applica	ation title or referen	ce, property
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Name(a) Dr Anno - M	arie Clements	23.4.11				



22 September 2011

Donna White 17/249 Ernest Street CAMMERAY NSW 2062

Mobile No.: 0417 469 912 Email: dw88088@gmail.com

The Director-General
The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (NSW)
23-33 Bridge Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Haddad.

Submission Objecting to MP10 _ 0110 – Achieve Australia Concept Plan 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank

I refer to the Environmental Assessment Report submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure by Achieve Australia Ltd seeking approval under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 for a Concept Plan for the site known as 74-76 Belmore Street, Meadowbank ("the Site").

I am writing this submission objecting to the proposed Concept Plan. My reasons are set out in this letter. I wish also to set out something about the background about the Crowle Home and in particular the circumstances of my sister, Karen White, who has resided there since 1972.

Background

Crowle Home

In May 1952, the Crowle Home and surrounding land was given to use as a home and educational facilities for intellectually disabled people. The proposed development and sale of this land to members of the wider community is not in accordance with the wishes of the Crowle family back then, or now.

Merger of Crowle Foundation with Achieve Foundation (Nov 2008)

Many of the members of Crowle Foundation voted for the merger of these two organizations because in my opinion management at that time instilled fear into the members by talking about cash flow problems within Crowle and the possibility of

Crowle collapsing if the merger did not go ahead. The members were lead to believe that the merged organization would sell one third of the Crowle Home Site to fund cluster housing for our family members. Lack of any legal representation at that time for Crowle members meant that this promise was not documented. Over time in my opinion the "merger" resembles more of a "takeover" than a merger and Crowle Foundation members find that they no longer have a voice in the care of their intellectually disabled family members. For example, during the past 10 months there has been only one meeting of Achieve management with Crowle resident family members.

My story:

My sister, Karen White, has been a resident of Crowle **Home** for the past **39 years**, as I mentioned earlier in this letter. She is still a resident of Crowle Home today. Karen has Downe's Syndrome and is 56 years old. **Karen is classified as moderately intellectually disabled, and intellectually can more or less compare with a 'normal' 5 or 6 years old.**

Back in 1972 my Mother gave Crowle Foundation what was a large amount of money for my Mother at that time, and signed an agreement which promised to provide Karen with a home at Crowle Home for the rest of her life. Up until the time of the merger of Crowle Foundation with Achieve in November 2008, living at Crowle Home meant being provided with grounds where Karen could wander around in safety; where she could live in a community surrounded by her friends; a swimming pool she could exercise in, and care and nurturing from long term staff who became much like her real family over the years. This contractual obligation for Karen to reside at Crowle Home for the rest of her life was passed on to Achieve when it "merged" with Crowle Foundation 3 years ago. To date, in my opinion, Achieve has been doing its best to ignore this obligation.

Objections

1. Much as aged persons are accommodated in aged care facilities and nursing homes because of failing physical and/or mental health (eg dementia), my sister has Downe's Syndrome which is also a health disorder. Just as aged care facilities are provided for the aged to help them because they are unable to care for themselves, Crowle Home has cared and provided for the intellectually disabled for the same reason. Because of Karen's health disorder, she is lacking the most basic skills (eg speech, literacy, ability to be able to protect herself from unwanted advances etc) to be able to survive in the community. How many people would place their normal 5 or 6 year old child in a house in the community with only drop-in support??

2. Whilst living at Crowle Home, Karen has participated extensively with the community. She goes to work offsite 3 days a week, plays ten-pin bowling weekly, plays bocce and T-ball weekly, goes shopping each Saturday at her local shopping centre, regularly visits her local club, goes on ad hoc ferry rides, visits to the art gallery and other places of interest etc etc. She attends all of these activities with carers because she is unable to do any of them without support.

All of these activities are shared with her friends of almost 40 years. As these friends have been moved away from Crowle Home by Achieve, Karen has lost communication with them. As with any 5-6 year old, Karen does not understand why this has happened; as an older sibling, neither do I. Anecdotally, it appears that those residents who are moved into community housing are not supported as well as they were when they lived at Crowle Home, and they do not get to see their lifelong friends. There is also strong anecdotal evidence from family members of residents who have been moved into community houses, the residents' level of activities and community involvement diminishes markedly – watching television becomes their major activity. They are in effect isolated in the community. People with intellectual disabilities do not understand this, and they miss their friends!!

Within the constraints of her disability, Karen has to date lead a full and happy life and she has been able to do this as a resident at Crowle Home, with the support and nurturing of Crowle Foundation staff and volunteers. Karen is the holder of both gold and bronze medals from 2007 Special Olympics held in Shanghai, China. Living at Crowle Home has certainly not prevented Karen from participating in community activities, nor prevented her from achieving beyond most people's expectations!!!!

Karen is happy living at Crowle Home: she loves being surrounded by her friends, she loves the many and frequent activities she participates in, she loves most of her carers. Her loving family has been more than pleased to see Karen happy and fulfilled and content with her life at Crowle Home. What better endorsement of the current situation?

3. An Aging Community

As mentioned above, Karen is 56 years old. In terms of her Downe's Syndrome disability, old age, mobility problems and dementia is not far away for her. With the proposed development of the Crowle Home site, there will be nowhere for Karen to go once she is showing more symptoms of encroaching old age (she already has arthritis and mobility problems). She will become yet another aged person requiring full time care in the already over-stretched aged care industry.

A large number of Crowle/Achieve residents are over 50 years old. Once the Crowle Home site is developed and sold, there is no capacity to be able to provide for this aging population. They will need to look to nursing homes for care and accommodation. And since none of these residents have homes to sell in order to buy a bed in a nursing home, they will need to look to the government for support. Wouldn't it be better to keep part of the Crowle Home site for development to

specifically cater for this not-too-distant requirement? It would be much more cost effective to keep higher support residents together.

4. Para 7.15.2 - 5th paragraph of the Environment Assessment Report makes it clear that any housing on the current Crowle Home site will be for the more independent of the Crowle/Achieve residents whilst "other residents with higher support needs will need to be accommodated in other homes". And by definition, this means that these higher support residents will be in isolated houses in the community, or be put into nursing homes when their needs become too high for Achieve to support. As a family member I would much prefer that Karen be kept on the Crowle Home site and supported, surrounded by her friends and familiar carers.

5. Accommodation Model

Para 7.15.2 table – "Other" on page 73 of the Environment Assessment Report states that Achieve's Concept Plan Application is part of its participation in the NSW Government initiatives to fund closure of Large Residential Centres (LRC).

I have 3 issues with this statement -

- 1. 31 residents at Crowle Home does not comply with the definition of a Large Residential Centre.
- 2. In recent years the Government has been instrumental in overseeing purpose built accommodation for intellectually disabled residents eg Hamlyn Terrace on the Central Coast for ex residents of Peat Island; a new village style development for Lachlan residents at Macquarie, Ryde NSW.
- 3. There are <u>many</u> other examples of village-style or cluster-style developments where intellectually disabled residents were able to maintain their life-long friendships, incorporating the needs of <u>vulnerable</u> intellectually disabled people.

6. Adaptable Housing

Para 7.15.5 mentions that "10% of the dwellings will be designated as 'adaptable housing' to suit the needs of individual residents, <u>some of whom</u> may be in supported accommodation."

In other words the percentage of adaptable housing is no higher than any other housing development. It does not take into consideration that any Achieve/Crowle residents who are lucky enough to be able to maintain Crowle as their lifelong home, may increase the development's requirement for adaptable housing.

7. Community involvement

Para 8.1 of the Social Impacts Assessment: in the second paragraph it states that people with disabilities should so far as possible, live in and be part of the community etc. I refer you to the summary of Karen's weekly activities (copied below):

- When living at Crowle Home, Karen has participated extensively with the community. She goes to work offsite 3 days a week, goes ten-pin bowling weekly, plays bocce and T-ball weekly, goes shopping each Saturday at her local shopping centre, regularly visits her local club, goes on ad hoc ferry rides, visits to the art gallery etc etc.
- Within the constraints of her disability, Karen has to date lead a full and happy life and she has been able to do this as a resident at Crowle Home, with the support and nurturing of Crowle Foundation staff and volunteers. Karen is the holder of both gold and bronze medals from 2007 Special Olympics held in Shanghai, China. Living at Crowle Home has certainly not prevented Karen from participating in community activities, or prevented her from achieving beyond most people's expectations!!!!
- Over the years Karen has competed in softball games, netball tournaments, swimming carnivals etc etc. None of these were held within the confines of Crowle Home – they were all community activities.

When I plan to visit Karen or take her out for the day, it can be difficult to find time when she is not attending one of the community activities listed above. Competing in the National AND International Special Olympics involved attending training sports camps, training offsite several times a week; a 3 week trip to China; a 2 week trip to Brisbane; another 2 week trip to Adelaide; attendance at cocktail parties and dinners to raise funds and celebrate winnings.

Karen participates in the community in every way, she just happens to sleep and spend her <u>spare</u> time within the safe confines of Crowle Home (much like most 'normal' people spend time at their home), but she has carers to support her in areas where she is intellectually deficient.

8. Limited Living Skills

Para 8.1 of the Social Impacts Assessment also discusses limited living skills as a consequence of living in "a congregate care setting". Karen has Downe's Syndrome with a moderate intellectual disability. There are some skills she will never be able to learn, no matter where she is living. Carers and trainers at Crowle Foundation for the 36 years before Achieve took over tried to teach Karen some living skills, as have her family members when she stays for periods of time. Karen has a very short memory and cannot remember things she is taught over and over and over and over and over and over again. This is part of her disability. Try to think of some intellectually disabled as "idiot savants". They can be extremely talented in some area, eg playing the piano, or dancing or painting etc. Karen is talented at throwing balls. Her father was too, as is her other sister, but she is still moderately intellectually disabled. No amount of teaching will result in Karen being able to care fully for herself.

Achieve has had 3 years to remedy the situation (if they believe it's possible), but has not been successful to date. Living in the community will suddenly make Karen

smarter?? More able to look after herself?? Or just make her a target for people who want to take advantage??

I suggest the latter is the more likely – after all I have known her for 56 years, not just 3 as in Achieve's case.

Conclusion

There are many successful examples of cluster housing that have allowed intellectually disabled people a home with their lifelong friends, where they can fully participate in community activities and yet stay safe, and receive the nurturing that they require. Providing cluster housing on the Site for Crowle residents like my sister would be the preferred outcome here.

I repeat that I oppose the proposed Concept Plan. The Environmental Assessment Report does not meet the Director-General's Requirements and particular DGRs requiring Achieve to address consultation (DGR 17) and social impact (DGR 18). Nowhere are the individual requirements of my sister, Karen White, considered or the social impact of the proposed development on her present and future needs personally addressed. Consultation is wholly inadequate.

Yours sincerely

Donna White

Political Donations Disclosure Statement to Minister or the Director-General

If you are required under section 147(3) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to disclose any political donations (see Page 1 for details), please fill in this form and sign below.

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