

**Submission
No 76**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE CBD AND SOUTH EAST LIGHT RAIL PROJECT

Organisation: The Book Kitchen

Date Received: 9 July 2018

NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Sydney Light Rail

Confidentiality instructions

X	Make the submission and your name public
	Make the submission public and withhold your name
	Keeping part of the submission confidential
	Keeping the submission confidential

Details of applicant

Application type: Business

Information compiled on: 8th July 2018

Name: Amelia Birch

Business Name: The Book Kitchen

Email address:

Phone number:

Address of residence / business impacted by light rail project:

Devonshire St, SURRY Hills 2010

Impact of the project

How have you been impacted by the light rail construction?

I was forced to put my business of 12 years (8 of those years owned by me) into liquidation after our trade dropped 40% the first week after they erected hoardings.

What do you estimate the financial damage incurred to you / your business or home as a result of the light rail construction?

\$300K +

As a resident, have you been supplied with or offered noise mitigation equipment or double glazing for your property?

N/A

Can you demonstrate the financial impact of the light rail construction comparing revenue/expenses to 12 months prior to commencement of SLR construction?

Yes

Do you have evidence to support your claim (invoices/tax returns/profit & loss)?

Yes

Has your mental health been impacted as a result of the project?

Yes, I suffer from anxiety and panic attacks.

Government assistance

Have you been rejected or outright refused assistance from TfNSW?

Yes, twice.

If you were rejected, please provide details of your experience including how you were treated by TfNSW.

The first two times I made applications for rental assistance to TfNSW the claims were rejected based on arbitrary and unsubstantiated conditions which were subsequently overhauled. All decisions were reactionary and mediocre.

If you are receiving rental assistance, how long did the process take to receive assistance?

I have not received anything.

General comments

Do you have any other comments you would like to make?

I have been appalled at the apathy from the NSW State Government. This entire project has been managed incompetently and with no research-based knowledge to go on. It is a disaster for businesses including my own and I have no doubt it will do nothing to address the transport needs of the community. I lost everything I put blood, sweat and tears into for 8 years in my life because of this inappropriate and expensive project and nobody in the government cares.