

**Submission  
No 25**

## **INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES**

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It is much said that the local community have been grumbling on the lack of bus routes between Sydney CBD and the Eastern Suburbs. The recent changes and frequency reduction services to bus routes affecting the local area have impacted travel times and frequency in which commuters are facing when commuting to schools, universities and workplaces.

With the return of international students to New South Wales and Australia in general, the demand for students commuting between Sydney Central and the University of New South Wales (UNSW) have increased in recent weeks and the former 891 bus route remains the main artillery used by thousands of students in transporting students directly to campus during university terms and examination weeks. Having a transport network that is sound and efficient allow students to commute to and from campus with direct connectivity without spillover on other commuting passengers such as schoolkids on designated school buses and office commuters on local bus routes.

An example of a Sydney Trains breakdown on 23rd August 2019, highlighted the importance of getting students the right to direct access to the campus on examination weeks. Unforeseen circumstances such as vehicle accidents on the light rail or breakdowns on light rail, further highlights the risk to diversify the need to transport students in the event of a massive delay. With all due respect, the 891 should be reinstated as should be the case prior to December 2021, particularly on examination weeks to cater the demand of students without the need of massively overwhelming other local bus routes that are frequented by local residents. Thank you.