

INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 29 March 2022

Partially
Confidential

Dear Chair,

The proposed changes to bus routes and stops in the Randwick and Waverley local Government areas leaves many people I talk to feeling confused and angry and makes moving about our locality much more complicated and difficult. These changes seem designed to cater for those living and working along the main arteries such as Anzac Parade and Alison Road. Furthermore, the changes discriminate against many – from school children to those of any age with varying degrees of disability and those who are socially disadvantaged.

I have known about, and adapted to, some of the bus cuts and route changes but I've recently developed an eye problem and feel the full force of that discrimination. I'm in my eighties and my confidence has been severely shaken as I try to negotiate this fragmented new bus "service" and the Trip Planner. The solution I'm told is to "catch an uber" or "catch a taxi" and I might do that if I could afford it for everyday shopping and activities, but I like most people can't afford to.

The Trip Planner would never pass The Grandmother Test and I suggest that in future those who design and produce such information should run it past an elderly family member because they might be surprised at just how incomprehensible such publications often are.

It seems that the people who planned these cuts were in the prime of life and could walk up all the hills with ease and, what is more, were well paid and had no idea how the other half lives.