

**Submission
No 91**

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACTS
OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND
COMMUNITIES**

Name: Miss Joanne Threlfo

Date Received: 3 November 2023

I am a resident of Wamberal on the Central Coast and have lived here on and off since 1967. I moved back here in 1989. Recently, I have attended and followed various reports and forums regarding the DA application that has been supported by Central Coast council and a very small number of residents who have built huge houses on the sand dunes despite knowing the erosion seen over the years. I have witnessed the beach erosion from large storms and sea surges. The houses who were established years ago and set their smaller homes back on the dunes, have retained natural vegetation rather than build on the dunes itself. During these storms those older smaller homes do not have the erosion the newly built large ostentatious homes who have built on the beach itself. It is clear that natural vegetation and structures built back from the sand dunes can tolerate the high tides and surges. My concern is the proposed vertical seawall will destroy the beach as we have seen at collaroy beach. Whilst council members say they have consulted the community I was shocked to hear the DA is proceeding before an environmental impact study on the impact the wall will have on the lagoons let alone the beach has been made available to the local residents. My other concern is that there are no elected council members in Central Coast council whilst this DA is proceeding. Who and how are the local residents being consulted> not at all. Those supporting the wall are a very small group of self minded people along with our local member Adam Crouch. I have asked to meet with MP Crouch to ask how he will represent the broader community on this issue twice, with no response. Locals are now holding their own community consultation but local council representatives proposing the wall and MP Crouch will not attend. The beaches do not have an erosion problem as the sand come and goes as it naturally has for years. It is only a problem for those few who developed massive homes on the sand dunes. The problem is due to careless development. I wish to submit my concerns and request an Environmental impact study be conducted, that alternative options be fully explored and presented to local residents who are also have major concerns regarding the DA proposal. A huge 1.2 km Vertical walls will destroy the beach that so many locals and tourists love. Revegetation, sand replenishment and even netted boulders built on the beach that promote revegetation are clearly less destructive, yet they have not been presented as options. I appreciate the opportunity to express the concerns of myself and many locals who are very concerned about this DA for a vertical seawall.