

## **Summary OF EVIDENCE OF JONATHAN RAY REDFERN-HARDISTY**

### **ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT**

#### **ARBORICULTURE**

##### **Summary of evidence**

- I have been asked to provide evidence in relation to the potential adverse effects that the Theatre may have on five notable trees growing within the site.
- The environmental values affected through the removal of the Norfolk Island Pine and the two Magnolia trees, can be mitigated through appropriate replacement planting long-term. Provided the removal of these trees is undertaken by a suitable arboricultural contractor, the potential damage to trees being retained can be managed.
- The incursion effects of the building into the rootzones' of the Norfolk Island Pine and the Bunya bunya that are being retained have been assessed to be minor in accordance with the Australian Standards (AS4970). In regards to the installation of the piles within or near the rootzones of the trees, the final construction methodology has not been finalised, however, a number of methods are available to minimise the impact on the trees as highlighted in Mr Howard's evidence. To minimise and manage the affects, all works within or near the rootzone of the trees will adhere to the recommended conditions of consent, a Tree Protection Management Plan, which will be produced as part of the conditions of consent, and the tree protection and mitigation measures outlined in the initial arborist report.
- The pruning of the trees is required to both assist with the installation of the deck, screen structure and to eliminate ongoing conflict. The pruning will be the minimal amount required to achieve the works and remove ongoing permanent conflict. At the time of this report, the full amount of pruning required is not accurately known, however, there will be trimming required to the Norfolk Island Pine's eastern canopy to eliminate conflict with the external screen. Given the robust nature of the trees and the mitigation measures proposed, it is expected that the trimming will be within the trees' tolerances. However,

notwithstanding, the trimming will alter the shape of the trees, in particular the Norfolk Island Pine. The extent of the shape alterations will be minimised by removing only what is necessary. Given the nature of the theatre's screen, the shape alteration is likely only to be apparent within the Theatre's complex.

## **CONCLUSION**

- In my view, given the robust nature of the trees being retained and if the conditions of consent, the Tree Protection Management Plan, mitigation measures previously outlined are adhered to, and that any further changes to the design are based on reducing impacts on the trees then:
  - Adverse effects on the trees to be retained will be adequately managed – both in terms of the construction effects and the operation of the Theatre facility;
  - Adverse effects associated with the tree removal will be adequately off-set.
- Overall, therefore, the effects on trees will be minor, in my opinion.

Jonathan Ray Redfern-Hardisty

[16.10.2019]