

**SINGAPORE DEVELOPER WITHDRAWS CONTENTIOUS DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION ON PITTWATER'S SCOTLAND ISLAND FOLLOWING PROTESTS FROM RESIDENTS**

Singapore's largest developer the Far East Organisation, who emerged as the secret buyer of Pittwater's prestige Yamba estate on Scotland Island, has withdrawn its development application in its entirety.

The DA withdrawal followed extensive community dissent including a beach picnic protest in March this year and over 85 letters of objection sent to Pittwater Council. The development proposed a three-storey, six-bedroom building over 10.8 metres high on a property sized under 50% of the minimum lot size permitted in Pittwater.

"The developers showed scant regard for the relevant state and local requirements of Pittwater Council," said Scotland Island resident and Yamba neighbour Chris Goold.

"The proposed development also provided for nine bathrooms and toilet facilities placing a huge strain on scarce water resources with proposals to treat, then deposit, effluent from these facilities into a trench in close proximity to the foreshore of Pittwater."

Offshore resident Jennifer Knox said the development would have also seen the removal of over half the highly protected spotted gum forest – "an 'environmental disaster'".

"It is a timely reminder of the importance of local representation as Pittwater has highly specific needs. We need council staff and councillors that understand those needs and protect our foreshores from over development.

"Scotland Island is part of the wider Pittwater offshore community and many in that community have been quick to praise the actions of Council throughout their assessment of Yamba," Ms Knox said. "Their report was a highly objective, critical analysis of all the issues involved."

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