



Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory

Standing Committee on Environment
and Planning

Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into DPA-07 - Former Braddon Bowls Club

Submission number: 025.1

Submitter: Ainslie School Parents and Citizens Association

Date authorised for publication: 2 July 2026

From: President Ainslie School P&C

Sent: Tuesday, June 23, 2026 06:31

To: TOUGH ; CAIN
CARRICK ; CLAY

Cc:

Subject: DPA07 - Correction Ainslie School fence

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To the members of the Standing Committee on Environment and Planning,

My name is Kathlene Murphy and I am the current Ainslie School P&C President. I felt privileged to be able to sit in on the hearing held last Thursday for the redevelopment of the former Bradon Bowls Club site (DPA-07), and grateful for the opportunity that Australia and Canberra gives its citizens to participate in democracy.

However, as I was listening I noticed some of the witnesses misunderstood the history of a fence around Ainslie School and I would like to correct the record. I am new to this role and to the P&C, but work on the fence has a long history.

Despite what some witnesses supposed, **the proposal for a fence has NOT been rejected on heritage grounds.** There is strong support among staff and parents for the fence. It is my understanding that plans for a fence - 1.5m steel pickets with rounded tops - were signed off several years ago by our principal, our board chair, the P&C president and the Director of School Improvement. The last meeting in 2023 with ACTEDU was to develop a communications and engagement process to start the consultation process before building, however the project failed to move forward from there, possibly for funding reasons.

A fence around the school would help to keep our students safe during school

hours. As members pointed out on Thursday, our school is less than 1km from the city centre and this brings with it different risks to those navigated by suburban schools. We are also surrounded by busy roads which will only get worse if the hotel development goes ahead. Unfortunately most traffic calming measures that could be implemented significantly reduce the already limited parking spaces around our school.

There is no desire or intention to lock gates or keep people out once our children have left the area. We welcome the general public to use our green spaces and playgrounds outside school hours, and as a community-minded school we are more than happy to contribute to our neighbourhood in this way.

The Committee could include in its recommendations that a fence be built around Ainslie School as a part of the changes to the former Braddon Bowls Club site. This would keep our children safer, regardless of what happens to the site in future, and give our school community a sense that the government understands their concerns.

Thank you for your time looking into this matter, and for considering our school.

If you would like to meet to discuss the issue further, please don't hesitate to contact me or the school and we can arrange a time at your convenience.

Thanks again,
Kathlene Murphy

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Kathlene Murphy | President

