## Agenda Report SUBJECT:

## CCL 08/12/20 - 'STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN' CONCEPT

**RESOLVED:** (Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded Councillor Clausen)

That Council:

- 1 Endorses the 'Stairway to Heaven' concept, which seeks to open up connections and view lines from Newcastle foreshore and the Hunter Street Mall to Christ Church Cathedral.
- 2 Notes that City of Newcastle's (CN) 59 year old Mall Car Park is not proposed to be reconstructed as a stand-alone car park due to its poor structural condition and significant costs to make the building safe, compliant and operational.
- 3 Authorises the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to undertake feasibility analysis and discussions to progress the 'Stairway to Heaven' concept, including:
  - Exploring the potential for the Mall Car Park site to be redeveloped to deliver the concept, the protection of public car spaces (estimated at 380) and social infrastructure to ensure these components are provided in any new concept;
  - ii) Entering into without prejudice discussions with Iris Capital regarding the potential for its adjoining development to integrate with redevelopment of the Mall Car Park site to deliver the concept;
  - iii) Assessing requirements for the provision of on-going public car parking capacity for CBD;
  - iv) Ensuring, and where necessary strengthening, controls in the Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012 (NDCP 2012) to protect view corridors to Christ Church Cathedral;
  - v) Ensuring an appropriate financial return and arrangements for CN and ratepayers.
- 4 Refers the matter to the Asset Advisory Committee and the Urban Design Consultative Group for advice.
- 5 Notes that any final decision to proceed will be subject to Council approval, and usual approval and public exhibition processes will apply to any development applications.