



## DEFEND YOUR HOME

The proposed new planning laws will demolish the current NSW planning system and residents' protections. Premier O'Farrell and Minister Hazzard claim that these changes are necessary to drive growth in NSW, but the proposals offer free kicks to developers and silence community voice – environmental protection comes a poor second.

Councils will lose power to defend residents against developers, the Good, the Bad and the Ugly. 80% of development decisions will be made by a certifier within 10 days or less. Your only opportunity to restrain overdevelopment will be at the initial stages, when you can comment on fundamental controls for your area, such as height and density. Once regional controls have been approved you have no further say. Your right to object to particular development applications, both large and small, will be abolished. If a development complies with the area controls it could be approved within a few days. The Government proposes to do away with the current zones in the Local Environment Plans and replace them with 13 new zones prepared by Councils in consultation with their community.

Moreover, if the Minister for Planning thinks the regional control plan is too restrictive he or she can overrule it. In effect Part 3A, which gave the Minister power to approve a development even if it broke the rules, will become permanent as part of the legislation.

### WHAT CAN I DO?

There are many ways you can fight the legislation:

- The best way is to join your local residents' group ([Glebe – plebesociety.org.au](http://Glebe-plebesociety.org.au) Ultimo or Pyrmont – [mortimer@docmatrix.com.au](mailto:mortimer@docmatrix.com.au)) who work on your behalf through the statewide Better Planning Network.
- You can write/email/phone your state representatives, especially Fred Nile ([F.Nile@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:F.Nile@parliament.nsw.gov.au)) and Paul Green ([paul.green@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:paul.green@parliament.nsw.gov.au)) in the Upper House, who hold the balance of power; the Premier, Barry O'Farrell ([office@premier.parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@premier.parliament.nsw.gov.au)) and Planning Minister, Brad Hazzard ([office@hazzard.minister.parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:office@hazzard.minister.parliament.nsw.gov.au))
- You can learn much more by attending your

### COMMUNITY PLANNING FORUM

#### GLEBE TOWN HALL

**7 PM, THURSDAY MAY 16.**

While you are there, sign the petition and volunteer to help with the campaign that will defend your home.

John Gray, President