



Planning

Wednesday, 23 March 2011

Letter to the Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald

It is misleading to assert that bushland at Lane Cove North is 'doomed' ('Bushland doomed to build more apartments', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23/03/11).

The Department of Planning commissioned a consultant to prepare an independent traffic study to assist the Rural Fire Service, Lane Cove Council and the Sydney Region East Joint Regional Planning Panel when assessing development applications in the Mowbray Rd urban renewal precinct.

By doing this, the Department is assisting in the creation of well-planned new housing to meet Sydney's needs.

The report does make some suggestions about bushland management but these do not form part of its formal conclusions, which primarily concentrate on ensuring there is sufficient road width for fire truck access. The RFS has endorsed the findings of the report.

It is now a matter for Council whether to accept or reject the report's conclusions when assessing bushfire issues related to these applications, before Council makes its recommendation to the JRPP.

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