Media response to Maitland Mercury on mixed-use development over the Newcastle railway line

Response to a media query about claims from a researcher supporting mixed-use development over a retained Newcastle railway line. The researcher also made comments about the role of cars in Newcastle’s future.

The NSW Government will transform and revitalise Newcastle’s city centre to boost economic activity, making Newcastle a more vibrant place for locals and visitors.

Simply placing additional mixed-use development over railway stations or lines in itself does not assist with the issue of the railway line being a barrier to good urban renewal and revitalisation.

It also doesn’t deal with the broader revitalisation required across the rest of the CBD as outlined in our plans.

The revitalisation plan proposes reasonable car-parking controls in new residential development.

The NSW Government’s plan will bring people via train to the Newcastle CBD at a Wickham interchange.

Bus services will be coordinated with the rail timetable from the new interchange to ensure smoother journeys to the city centre and to other areas within Newcastle for professional, commercial, educational and social purposes.

This will ensure a good and sustainable future for the Newcastle CBD.

The comments considered at today’s forums will help us improve the plans to revitalise Newcastle’s CBD.