Letter to the Editor

Sensitive environmental areas, heritage items and residents’ rights to object to development will continue to be protected under our new planning system (O’Farrell betrays again, 24/6/13 and Planning goes amok, 22/6/13).

In particular, resident feedback will be central to the creation of new strategic plans, which will ensure infrastructure is provided alongside growth at the same time as protecting heritage assets.

The Land and Environment Court will continue to be able to rule on appeals made by developers while private certifiers will be subject to tighter disciplinary guidelines.

Contrary to assertions by your correspondents, strategic compatibility certificates are an interim measure which will allow the NSW Government to update local plans, in line with an agreed strategic plan for an area developed following extensive community consultation.

These certificates are to ensure adequate supply of housing, jobs and infrastructure in the transition to a new system.

More information is available at www.planning.nsw.gov.au

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