

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING PROCESS IN NEWCASTLE
AND THE BROADER HUNTER REGION**

Name: Name suppressed
Date received: 8/10/2014

Partially Confidential

NEWCASTLE IS PRECIOUS NOT JUST VALUABLE..!

=====

Newcastle Art Gallery

I have concerns that under the recent Liberal State Government (Tim Owen stood on the electoral platform of supporting the Art Gallery redevelopment), as well as under the new Newcastle Council and mayorship in 2013, the long awaited Newcastle Art Gallery redevelopment went from being 'shovel ready' and on the brink of being fully funded, to losing the exemplary Director of the Art Gallery, Ron Ramsey and the allocated Federal funding for the redevelopment having to be returned the to the Federal Labour government.

The execution of and reasons for the dismissal of the Director as well as the loss of the redevelopment appear to have been singularly unprofessional, highly suspicious.

Building Heights

I am a resident of Newcastle, and am appalled at the way rulings have been made in Council about new development in Newcastle. Allowable heights of buildings in the East End, the old city, have been changed showing no regard for past policy and with no regard for the value of the aesthetics of the invaluable old part of the city.

Rail Truncation

I am deeply concerned about the rail truncation and the rail corridor ostensibly being 'liberated', without due regard for those who most need this form of transport to access the old Newcastle city, being those who come in from further afield, Maitland, Scone, Dungog, Gloucester.

Families use the rail to Newcastle station, elderly and youngsters (with walking equipment, prams, surfboards, bicycles) are able to get to the city safely to access the city business facilities and beaches, allowing for healthy lifestyles in the greater Hunter region.

The needs of those most needy should be considered before that of greedy developers.

NEWCASTLE IS PRECIOUS NOT JUST VALUABLE..!!

=====