

Submission
No 195

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACTS
OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND
COMMUNITIES**

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 14 November 2023

Partially
Confidential

Dear Committee of the inquiry into the planning system and the impacts of climate change and the environment and communities.

It has just been brought to my attention about this inquiry.

I am a local resident at Albion Park the shire of Shellharbour City Council and a Landcare volunteer for 24 Years.

I have written many submissions to Shellharbour City Council about the loss of vegetation Trees and threaten species in this local area of Albion Park.

One DA I submitted a Submission too the developer wanted to remove a large beautiful Paper Bark Tree and many more DA's there has been the loss of MANY trees and Trees with large hollows which can take up to 100 years to grow.

The developers seem to think they can just cut them down and replace them with nesting Boxes, and with our current environmental laws they can.

But our trees all so help to cool the planet down and this is important with Climate change.

One DA that is currently on Public exhibition here in Shellharbour the Consultant did not even acknowledge the platypus in the Macquarie Rivulet at Calderwood, and when it was brought to their attention by the PUBLIC all they did was go to the River once for 2.5 hrs and state no platypus are there. Even though the Consultant said there is the potential for them to be there in the River because of the Habitat. But we don't need to do anything further as they are not endangered.

Even though the platypus are in declined and other states they have been classified as endangered.

They want to remove Trees along the River and vegetation clearing is a Threat to the platypus survival.

Lucky the Community had videos of the platypus in the River, so the future for this species is not very good with our current planning laws.

Another DA I submitted a submission too at Tullimbar they said there was no Zieira granulata which is a endangered species. The Community took a walk in this area that is proposed for development and found it in 5 Minutes and it was very easy to find.

The developers can currently just pick a consultant to do a Environmental study that suits there needs and what they want to do.

So what I mainly see is the loss of vegetation and Environmental planning should look at retaining the trees and work around that. Instead of taking the easy way out and removing them for housing.

Retain the Trees and still have the housing. People would rather choose not to live in a concrete Jungle.

The house blocks are so small these days that people do not plant trees which help cool our planet.

Wollongong City Council are currently trying to increase the Tree Canopy in the City.

But how better it would be if we retained the current Trees we have.

Yours Sincerely

14 November 2023