



MEDIA RELEASE

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BARRY O'FARRELL BREAKS CORE ELECTION PROMISE TO KU-RING-GAI

Barry O'Farrell breaks core election promise to residents of Ku ring-gai at a packed community meeting in North Turramurra on Sunday.

Friends of Ku-ring-gai Environment Inc (FOKE) President Kathy Cowley said today ". In 2010 the then Leader of the Opposition and Member for Ku-ring-gai Barry O'Farrell heralded his election campaign with 'how I will save Ku-ring-gai from poor planning....'

"In front of a packed hall of residents on Sunday, he reneged on the most fundamental issue affecting Ku-ring-gai residents, being excessive and inappropriate development" Kathy Cowley said.

"A repeated core promise to honour and respect the signed agreement between Ku-ring-gai Council and the state government in 2006 to cap dwelling number growth from 2004 to 2031 at 10,000 is now effectively a hollow and empty promise to the people of Ku-ring-gai" Kathy Cowley said.

Ku-ring-gai had approximately 34000 dwellings in 2004. "Barry O'Farrell made a commitment to over 1000 people at the infamous UTS Planning Panel meeting, to honour the agreement to cap the increase of our dwellings at 10,000 and to curb any plans exceeding this figure . This is a 33% increase in dwellings over the 25 years." Kathy Cowley said

Brad Hazzard confirmed in writing to the Ku-ring-gai Resident's Alliance following the meeting on 30 November 2011 "10,000 is about right for Ku-ring-gai". Jonathan O'Dea said in writing on 27 July 2013 "I also continue to support the Ku-ring-gai Council area target of 10,000 new dwellings to 2031." Kathy Cowley said

"Ku-ring-gai agreed to take an increase of 33% new dwellings and population increase but has suffered more congestion without any increase in infrastructure and with reduced train services".

Kathy Cowley revealed "In reply to a question from the floor at the North Turramurra meeting Barry O'Farrell confirmed that under the draft Metropolitan Strategy promulgated by his government an additional 7000+ dwellings could now be imposed on Ku-ring-gai. He excused this by saying that his government

could not depart from agreements between the State Government and Local Government made by the previous Labor Government with councils. This is a ridiculous excuse as the draft Metropolitan Strategy does not represent any agreement between State Government and Local Government”.

“Now Barry O’Farrell and Brad Hazzard are set to breach the promise of 10,000. It is clear the Liberal party and the Labor party both want to concrete Ku-ring-gai” she said.

“We have participated in a community survey which reveals that only 10% of the Ku-ring-gai community believe their MP is effective in addressing planning issues and only 30% of them would vote for him in the next election. This is confirmed by the results of the recent Miranda by-election which the Liberals unexpectedly lost and in which the subject of planning was a major factor.” Kathy Cowley stated

“Barry O’Farrell is losing the trust of Ku-ring-gai residents and this trust will be further eroded if he doesn’t re-confirm in writing his promise of 10,000 dwellings” said Kathy Cowley

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