

# PLANNING FOR PEOPLE

## A COMMUNITY CHARTER FOR GOOD PLANNING IN NSW

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### MEDIA RELEASE

23 February 2015

A Community Charter for Good Planning in NSW was sent to all state candidates in the state electorates of Davidson and Ku-ring-gai this week, by an alliance of Ku-ring-gai community groups fighting overdevelopment in our area. Our letter invites them to sign and support the Charter, which stands for good planning in NSW.

Spokesperson for the alliance of Ku-ring-gai community groups Kathy Cowley said “*‘The Planning for People Charter’* has been created in response to widespread community disillusionment with recent planning and development that has occurred in Ku-ring-gai and across our State, and it sets out the principles to achieve a more balanced, fairer and more accountable planning system in NSW.”

Kathy Cowley said “The Charter has been prepared by a working group of community organisations from around the State over a number of months, in consultation with Better Planning Network, Community Councillors Network, Inner Sydney Regional Council for Social Development, National Parks Association of NSW, National Trust of Australia (NSW), Nature Conservation Council of NSW, NSW Heritage Network, Shelter NSW, Australia International Council of Monuments and Sites and The Total Environment Centre.”

“These groups, as well as a rapidly growing number of individuals, Parliamentarians and organisations have now endorsed the Charter.” Kathy Cowley said

“The Charter is not anti-development but aims to deliver sustainable, sympathetic and more relevant housing solutions for NSW residents.” Kathy Cowley said.

“Key principles of the Charter include the well-being of the whole community, the protection of the environment and heritage and based on open, transparent and genuine public participation in planning decisions.” Kathy Cowley said

Kathy Cowley said “As representatives of a large number of community groups in the Ku-ring-gai electorates, we are asking all state candidates to personally endorse the Charter, if they have not already done so.” “By doing so they are supporting the majority of residents who see this Charter as encouraging decisions that are free of corruption and which protect the public interest, respect community well-being, celebrate our environment and heritage and will provide genuinely affordable and diverse housing options”, Kathy Cowley said.

“Candidates have been asked to respond by email or post with the signed Charter by Friday 27 February.” Kathy Cowley said

“We also plan to publish a list of candidates who have or have not signed the Charter leading up to the state elections as well as candidate’s answers to a set of questions on planning issues that are affecting Ku-ring-gai residents.” Kathy Cowley said.

“We believe planning is going to be a big issue these elections for residents, based on responses to Better Planning Network surveys we conducted in shopping centres across Ku-ring-gai in 2014 ”, Kathy Cowley said.

The resident groups listed below, have endorsed the letter to go to the candidates:  
*[Planning for People: A Community Charter for Good Planning in NSW.](#)*

FRIENDS OF KU-RING-GAI ENVIRONMENT INC (FOKE), WAHROONGA WESTSIDE RESIDENTS’ GROUP, WEST LINDFIELD AND KILLARA RESIDENTS’ GROUP, NORTH TURRAMURRA ACTION GROUP INC. (NTAG), KU-RING-GAI PRESERVATION TRUST INC. (KPT), STEP INC., ST. IVES PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC (SIPA), FRIENDS OF LINDFIELD (FOL), FRIENDS OF PYMBLE, PYMBLE ACTION GROUP FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (PAGE) and the GORDON KILLARA RESIDENTS’ GROUP.

The Charter details and the link to sign the Charter can be found here:  
[http://thecommunitycharter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Planning-for-People\\_-\\_CHARTER-COMPANION-printer-version.pdf](http://thecommunitycharter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Planning-for-People_-_CHARTER-COMPANION-printer-version.pdf)

[http://thecommunitycharter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Planning-for-People\\_CHARTER-Tickbox.pdf](http://thecommunitycharter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Planning-for-People_CHARTER-Tickbox.pdf)

Kathy Cowley  
SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE KU-RING-GAI COMMUNITY GROUPS LISTED  
ABOVE  
[www.communitycharter.org](http://www.communitycharter.org)

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