

The significant problems that would be caused by the proposed variation No. 307 to the ACT Territory Plan have been extensively canvassed through the public consultation process recently carried out by ACTPLA. As Members of the Committee will know, that process highlighted in very clear terms the strong and determined opposition to the Brumbies' development proposals which exists right across Griffith and the inner south more generally. Of the 117 submissions to the consultation process, only two were in favour of the development. This is hardly surprising. The construction of a massive apartment complex in the middle of an established garden suburb would effectively destroy forever the amenity of the entire area and create traffic chaos in neighbouring streets. It is just wrong that the Brumbies should expect to make a quick and sleazy buck at the expense of Griffith residents and ACT taxpayers.

A broader consequence of the Brumbies' proposal, of course, is that if the development were to be allowed to proceed then it would represent a flashing green light for non-concessional leases right across Canberra to be converted so as to allow for the construction of large-scale multi-unit residential developments. Having allowed the Brumbies their special deal, ACTPLA and the Assembly would subsequently have no alternative but to offer the same benefit to all other holders of non-concessional leases should they request this. So residents right across Canberra would face the prospect of their neighbourhood sporting club, church, private school, community facility, etc. being converted into huge and unwelcome apartment complexes.

I expect that Canberra's dysfunctional planning system, which is so exemplified by the fact that this outrageous development proposal by the Brumbies has not yet been stopped, will be a major theme of the next ACT election. Like many hundreds of Griffith and inner south residents I will not be voting for any members of the Assembly that support the Brumbies' proposal.

Sincerely.

Brent Knevet