

Big Tassie doubts

IT is no surprise the flawed Tasmanian Planning Scheme has the backing of the Property Council. Anyone who attended the packed Town Hall meeting recently would have heard Professor Michael Buxton speak about the glut of high-rise apartments sprouting up over Melbourne and the subsequent decline in amenity for residents.

It was astounding that Prof Buxton did not mention the main driver of this building frenzy is Melbourne's rapid population growth, an increase of almost a million people in the past decade. Melbourne is increasing faster than any developed city in the world. Who wants it? Not most of the residents, as they are trying to protect what they love about their neighbourhood. They don't want high density.

Similarly in Tasmania, politicians are missing the big environmental, economic and social issues needed for a population to be sustainable.

Their "big Tasmania" agenda will inevitably lead to high rise and sprawl, which we have no way of stopping despite the rhetoric.

Merc

12 Nov 2016

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