

Gutwein making the state bland

Mercury

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THE State Government and Minister Peter Gutwein want to put Tasmania through the "blandier".

I happen to live in Battery Point — an utterly different place from Kingston or Huonville or Queenstown or Burnie or Bicheno — yet Minister Gutwein wants us all to conform to the same bland planning scheme.

Forget the spin, this one-size-fits-all proposal for planning has only one ben-

eficiary — commercial property developers.

One of the joys of living in Tasmania is the endless variation of the built environment. Each area is unique and should be treated as such. We have local councils and local planning schemes for a reason — to administer the varying needs and built form of local areas in a way that suits the residents and the environment.

Over time, a single overriding plan-

ning regimen will reduce our much-loved diversity to the monotony of the mainland that people come here to escape.

Minister Gutwein is not a fool and must know this. In light of recent revelations from the big island, you have to wonder whose influence on the Liberal Party is helping push through this deeply inappropriate policy.

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