

Destructive plans

I READ with interest your Editorial (*Mercury*, December 5) about the potential impact of the minor parties on the next State Election. While I generally agree with your analysis, I would like to add another twist to your prediction. I think the proposed Statewide Planning Scheme will be another factor in determining which party people will vote for. Once people understand that irrespective where they are domiciled in Tasmania they can have a totally incongruous building built next door to where they live there will be a revolt. In my case it is extreme — a proposed 75m tower in a residential zoned area with a 15m height limit, but it could just as easily be an 8.5m building (or higher if discretions are granted) built on the property line of a conventional residential property.

Tasmania has some of the most unspoilt historical architecture in the country. There are areas like Battery Point and Sullivans Cove that are unique. It is part of the charm, and one of the main reasons I left the mainland to live here just over a year ago. Any government which conspires to destroy this will never have my vote, and I guess that many other Tasmanians would feel the same.

I am not against development, however I am against development that destroys the unique nature of my adopted state.

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