

Yet again Warringah Council attempts to mislead our community over its handling of the proposed Dee Why Town Centre LEP which will facilitate height increases to 20 storeys and allow Multiplex/Vambucca and Warringah Council under Dick Persson to proceed with their own proposals to develop Chatswood like high rise Towers in Dee Why (MD 25.4.08).

Warringah Council's Director of Planning maintain that all he did was "approach some IHAP members for their advice, as architects, on the Dee Why Town Centre proposals in order to prepare my advice to the Administrator for consideration on May 5. The applicants (Multiplex/Vambucca and Warringah Council) were requested to present their proposals to the IHAP members and they left before the IHAP members discussed the proposals".

The Charter for the Independent Hearing and Assessment Panel states that IHAP members may not be approached on any matter that will come before it in the future. At the same Council meeting at which this private meeting was revealed following my questioning, the Director of Planning had a report on the Agenda about the workings of IHAP in which he stated "The charter, under which IHAP currently operates, precludes the members from having any contact with either the applicant or objectors". Clearly, these provisions have been breached on Mr Ryan organizing the meeting with the developers only in attendance.

I have never seen Warringah Council's Director of Planning allow mum and dad applicants for their houses or objectors meet with certain IHAP members out of public meeting session! Clearly there is one rule for the little people and one rule for Council when they are trying to facilitate their own developments and the Big End of Town's developments.

Vincent De Luca OAM