

20 June 2008

Council Plan will make Tweed homes dearer, Provest tells Parliament

“Tweed families simply will not be able to deal with the extra cost ...”

Tweed Nationals MP Geoff Provest has spoken out in Parliament against Tweed Shire Council's Development Control Plan (DCP), saying it will make housing less affordable for young Tweed families.

Mr Provest quoted the Master Builders Association which said: *“The DCP will impose significant cost increases for residential development in Tweed Shire at a time when NSW had the least affordable and worst performing housing market in the country.”*

“Council's decision to raise the minimum ceiling height from 2.4m to 2.7m will increase the cost of a new Tweed home by more than \$10,000,” Mr Provest said.

“Tweed families simply will not be able to deal with the extra cost in the current climate of high interest rates, poor housing affordability and rising costs of living.”

“This is just one of the many extra costs that will be levelled at the hip pocket of young Tweed families seeking to build a home.”

Mr Provest said he also still had major concerns with the State Government's new planning laws because they removed neighbours' rights to be informed about developments.

The Coalition has secured one win, with the Government withdrawing parts of the legislation which would have allowed councils to compulsorily acquire land and then on-sell it to developers.

Geoff Provest 0418 754 775