

## **Protecting the plains**

IN RESPONSE to Penrith Council's appalling rezoning which will destroy 500 hectares of "priority conservation lands" in western Sydney, I would like to point out this is not an issue of land rights or discrimination (Tribes sell land rights, December 16).

It is an issue of local government (in this case Penrith Council) undermining State Government plans to protect what is left of the native vegetation of western Sydney. The Minister Tony Kelly must give his new Cumberland Plain Recovery Plan some credibility by over-riding pro-development western Sydney councils and protecting "priority conservation areas".

Or is the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water's Cumberland Plain Recovery Plan simply tokenism (and we have suspected as much for a very long time out here in western Sydney).

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