

urbanrenewal - Submission re Newcastle Urban Renewal Strategy

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Subject: Submission re Newcastle Urban Renewal Strategy

I wish to register my concern that the rail link to the centre of Newcastle might be closed.

The recent announcement that the University of Newcastle has funding to establish a City Centre Campus serving 3000 or more students adds further weight to the argument that the existing rail services should be retained to ensure the future vibrancy of the city's historical centre.

My personal perspective is as a resident of the Dungog area. For Dungog residents the CityRail service to Newcastle is a major asset, particularly as it provides a means for those in rural areas to have access to the beach. The Newcastle line also enables us to attend meetings, concerts, cinema and shops/markets in and around the Newcastle city centre.

The existing rail service to Newcastle should provide a focus for inner-city housing projects around railway station hubs, these projects built over the line if necessary as is the case in so many European cities.

In Australia's future it is easy to see inner-city Newcastle as one of the most desirable places to live in the whole country - with a rail service to Sydney (or Dungog...) right at the doorstep.

Please retain the existing service and create appealing development over it and around it.

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