

Stinging rebuff

THE Land and Environment Court has delivered a rebuff for Ashfield Council (*Courier*, November 13).

The fact is that another local council has been caught misusing heritage rules to block important community renewal.

Plans by Trinity Grammar to build a swimming pool, a new hall, extra classrooms and underground parking have been held up for 20 months.

The Land and Environment Court said the opposition could only be explained by "long-standing frustration and animosity in the relations with the school".

The 11 houses to be demolished are already owned by the school. They were not heritage homes, or particularly exceptional. The council merely claimed they were "suitable" for heritage listing.

If you take that argument to its logical extension, half of Sydney could be regarded as "heritage".

Heritage laws are too important to be misused in this way.

Aaron Gadiel

Chief executive officer

NSW Urban Taskforce