

Letters The Age
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Whose aspirations?

MINISTER Justin Madden states that "planning policy should be about the aspirations of individual Victorians" (Comment, 25/6).

After his decision to ignore the expert panel inquiry findings on ocean access options at Bastion Point, Mallacoota, one has to question who the influential individuals are that result in the minister making such an appalling decision, treating the wider public interest and public process with contempt.

Certainly, "the priority must be planning for sustainability and affordability" (*The Age*, 25/6).

But at Bastion Point, neither of these goals will be met in terms of the public interest in ecological, cultural, economic and safety outcomes provided by the minister's chosen option. An upgrade of the ramp in its existing position will.

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