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The sky's no limit for Grant

By CARMEL MELOUNEY

FORMER ironman champion turned aviation businessman Grant Kenny wants to build a plane park on the northern NSW coast.

The proposal would allow wealthy holidaymakers to fly their own planes to a secure airfield with direct access to coastal residences.

Mr Kenny has submitted a proposal before Richmond Valley council to buy the historic Evans Head Aerodrome and redevelop the site with 60 residential homes with runway access.

The plan also includes a boutique motel, historical museum, war memorial, club rooms and an industrial complex attracting aviation-linked businesses to the area.

Mr Kenny is part of a con-

sortium of five businessmen led by the head of Waratah Coal and aviator Peter Lynch.

Richmond Valley Council's director of environmental developmental services, Ken Exley, said the council called for expressions of interest to develop a residential airpark and received three submissions, including Mr Kenny's.

Mr Exley said the other two proposals were from a business group with an aerodrome management background and a lifestyle group.

"All three are proposing a far more comprehensive plan than we would have expected," he said. "Only the Kenny proposal is to take over the management of the aerodrome."

Richmond Valley mayor Col Sullivan said Mr Kenny's name "definitely would help" lure people to the airpark.