I was the registered officer of a political party until recently registered for LOCAL government elections

I note that your terms of reference are for STATE government elections

Nevertheless, if you fix the problem at the state level it will simply reappear at the local government level (for developer donations at least) Local Governments have extensive powers to approve developments (especially ones that do not comply with their own building codes) as well as request rezoning of land.

Both of these actions result in huge profits for property developers, hence the temptation.

Vertically integrated political parties will simply ensure that all donations from entities affected by NSW legislation will be diverted to their Federal branch in a way that involves plausible deniability, eg a dinner with a Federal member.

The (very grateful) Federal Branch will then pass (most of) the money back to either their State Branch for NSW Elections or to Local Branches for Local Govt Elections.

We were outspent approximately 10 fold by a Party who were 'developer friendly', and were thus unable to get our message across.

You can't stop the donation side of things, so the only thing you can control at the State Level is the expenditure, which would need to be done at both State and Local Government levels.

Keith Kelly