



10 February 2016

Research Director
Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
Parliament House
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Dear Sir/Madam

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE SUBMISSION ON THE QUEEN'S WHARF BRISBANE BILL 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the Queen's Wharf Brisbane Bill 2015.

While the objectives of the Bill appear to relate to the Queen's Wharf development which is outside of Logan City, the proposed changes to the *Economic Development Act 2012* as part of this Bill are of significant concern and are not supported.

These concerns are based on the additional powers proposed to be afforded to Economic Development Queensland to approve certain developments outside a Priority Development Area, in what is an area where Council would normally make such decisions.

There appears to be no reasonable justification as to why such provisions are necessary. There may be relevance for the Queen's Wharf development but this does not share the same relevance for other Priority Development Areas such as Yarrabilba and Greater Flagstone in Logan City.

Council is concerned that the proposed changes to the *Economic Development Act 2012* have the potential to further erode the role of Council in planning functions around declared Priority Development Areas. Further, these changes could potentially, and seriously, impact on local accountability in the Logan City community given Council has recently endorsed (May, 2015) the Logan Planning Scheme which sets out planning policy for these areas based on community expectation.

Whilst the provisions in the Bill have a number of qualifications prior to a declaration being made, the tests to the satisfaction of only the Minister for Economic Development Queensland do not provide any certainty for the Logan City community and creates the perception that planning powers are being taken off democratically elected Councils by the State Government at the behest of other interests.

Council requests that the Parliamentary Committee amend the Bill so these provisions do not relate to the current or any future priority development areas.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information on this matter.

Yours faithfully

Todd Rohl
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – STRATEGY AND SUSTAINABILITY
(on behalf of Chris Rose, Chief Executive Officer)