



Speech by

HOWARD HOBBS

MEMBER FOR WARREGO

Hansard 5 December 2002

INTEGRATED PLANNING AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Mr HOBBS (Warrego—NPA) (10.26 a.m.): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

The objective of this bill is to amend the Integrated Planning Act 1997 with regards to replacing the existing section of the act that requires the transitional planning schemes for local government councils to lapse after five years. The following bill will provide those local government councils whose transitional planning schemes have not been converted to or replaced by an IPA planning scheme an extension of one year to 30 March 2004. The completion of an IPA compliant planning scheme is critical for local councils to be able to proceed with development outcomes sought for their areas and for specific localities.

Under the administration of the Hon. Nita Cunningham, the Minister for Local Government and Planning, the completion of all these IPA compliant schemes by the March 2003 deadline is most doubtful. As of today, only five schemes out of 123 are in operation, leaving a great deal of uncertainty throughout local government in Queensland. I seek leave to have the remainder of my speech incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

This represents an unfortunate 4% of all local councils that are eligible to have replaced their existing transitional planning schemes with an IPA compliant scheme by the end of March 2003.

Mr Speaker, the minister has not allocated sufficient resources overall and at an earlier stage to maintain and improve the quality of advice that is being passed on to councils and consultants.

The release of templates by the minister this year, to assist small and large councils in drafting their IPA compliant schemes, has come too late, given they were released towards the end of the five year timeframe set aside for councils to have their planning schemes implemented.

Mr Speaker, councils around Queensland are most concerned as to what plan the minister has for those that won't meet the deadline.

Mr Speaker, the minister has not come forward with a contingency plan that will ensure certainty for these councils for their future development approvals, which will affect infrastructure and employment within the local areas.

This bill will provide those councils with the extension they require and the certainty which the minister has neglected to provide to them. I commend the bill to the House.

Debate, on motion of Mrs Nita Cunningham, adjourned.