



Speech by

**Hon. Jeff Seeneey**


**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

Hansard Thursday, 23 August 2012

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## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

### State Planning Policies

 **Hon. JW SEENEY** (Callide—LNP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning) (9.43 am): Over the past three months I have spoken a number of times in this House about the urgent need for a complete revamp of Queensland's planning policies. Planning policies and regulation are key determinants of future growth, future development and future economic prosperity. As I have said a number of times, fixing the planning system will be one of this government's critical actions in getting the state back on track. This week we will gazette a temporary state planning policy which will ensure our four-pillar economic policy is included in all planning decisions taken in Queensland. I table a draft copy of that temporary state planning policy.

*Tabled paper:* Queensland Government, Draft Temporary State Planning Policy, Planning for Prosperity, August 2012 [805].

*Planning for prosperity* provides a clear statement of the position of this government on the importance of agriculture, construction, mining and tourism to our great state and how those four pillars must be considered in all planning processes in Queensland.

This policy will promote agriculture by preserving good-quality agricultural land for its income-earning potential and as a natural resource and by supporting agriculture as the predominant land use in rural zoned areas. It will also promote agriculture by not supporting land uses that have the potential for conflict with agriculture in those rural zoned areas. The policy will promote tourism by protecting Queensland's tourism attractions and significant natural assets for the benefit and sustainability of the tourism industry by facilitating tourism projects that complement local conditions and by removing hurdles and locational limitations for appropriate tourism development.

The policy will promote the state's mining and extractive resource industries by preserving mineral and extractive resource industries, by resolving at a regional and local level potential land-use conflicts and by supporting our mining communities with housing and community facilities. The policy will promote construction activities by facilitating residential, commercial and industrial development in appropriately zoned areas, by identifying infrastructure required to support new development and by removing impediments to a steady supply of land in suitable locations.

This is the first positive, enabling planning policy that Queensland has had in over a decade—one whose purpose is to ensure that economic growth is facilitated and not adversely affected by a planning process that was designed to stop everything. In essence, this policy will ensure that state agencies and councils must ensure that economic development considerations are a fundamental planning consideration in this state.

This is common sense. It is a simple and straightforward policy, not weighed down by processes or prescriptive requirements. The temporary state planning policy will be in effect for a maximum of 12 months or until it is incorporated into a single planning policy for Queensland. I intend to release that policy for public comment by October and have set a target of March next year to have it adopted. It will replace the current batch of policies, some 14—a mishmash of policy documents that have been developed in an ad hoc manner over the past 20 years. This is a key step in this government's determination to get Queensland back on track.