




Speech By
Tim Nicholls

MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 4 June 2015

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (PLANNING FOR PROSPERITY-
CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT
BILL**

Portfolio Committee, Reporting Date

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (12.02 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—

That under the provisions of standing order 136, the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee report to the House on the Planning and Development (Planning for Prosperity) Bill, the Planning and Development (Planning Court) Bill and the Planning and Development (Planning for Prosperity—Consequential Amendments) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill by 13 October 2015.

In nominating 13 October, while I am cognisant of the size of the bills I am also cognisant of the very extensive work that has gone into preparing these bills. There has been over 18 months worth of consultation in the preparation of these bills. As I indicated in my explanatory speech, work first started on these bills in June 2013. Full consultation with all affected groups has been undertaken, including through property forums, planning group forums and direct consultation with interested groups. Indeed, for the benefit of the House I tabled a results-of-consultation document published in December 2014 that outlines not only the comments that were made by people but also the responses that were put forward by the department, including the very substantial number of changes and agreements that were made to make changes to parts of the legislation.

There can be no doubt that the planning industry and those with an interest in this legislation have had every opportunity to be consulted and to provide their input into what is undeniably a complex piece of legislation. It is the case that by the time the exposure draft was released many of the changes had been resolved. Of course, there was a two-month period where the exposure draft legislation had been provided to interest groups, again as I detailed in my explanatory notes. There can be no question that those involved know, in the main, the contents of that legislation. In fact, as we have seen, they have supported the thrust of the amendments made by the previous government, whether that was around the single assessment and referral agency or the state planning scheme. In fact, after a period of consultation, they have supported the move to a new piece of planning legislation. This legislation has 258 pages, which may seem a lot but is somewhat less than the 700 pages that would otherwise be the case in what is a complex area.

A number of other very extensive reports on consultation have occurred. I refer to the document titled *A conversation about planning reform* dated 5 December 2014, which was widely available on the government website and provides a wealth of information and detail about these purposes. I have also spoken to industry groups, including the Local Government Association, the Property Council, Master Builders and others who have all indicated to me their desire to see this process continue, as I indicated in my speech.

This is a golden opportunity for this parliament to act in the best interests of Queenslanders. This is a golden opportunity to advance the cause of the property and construction industry for the benefit of not only the property and construction industry itself but also all Queenslanders, by providing a simplified, streamlined, effective and affordable process. On that basis, I believe that this motion should be agreed to. I believe that an almost five-month committee process, bearing in mind the budget and other issues, is an entirely appropriate process. I urge members to support the report-back date.