



Speech By Christopher Whiting

MEMBER FOR BANCROFT

Record of Proceedings, 14 October 2022

STATE DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL INDUSTRIES COMMITTEE

Report

Mr WHITING (Bancroft—ALP) (10.15 am): As chair of the State Development and Regional Industries Committee, I lay upon the table of the House report No. 28, 57th Parliament, *Inquiry into the Independent Assessor and councillor conduct complaints system*.

Tabled paper: State Development and Regional Industries Committee: Report No. 28, 57th Parliament—Inquiry into the Independent Assessor and councillor conduct complaints system <u>1670</u>.

The report is the culmination of extensive consultation with the local government sector and months of nonpartisan committee collaborations with stakeholders. I thank all those involved, including the deputy chair and member for Lockyer, my fellow committee members and the committee secretariat for their valuable contributions.

Councillors play a fundamental role in their communities, and Queenslanders expect high standards of behaviour from their elected community leaders. An effective councillor complaints system is vital to maintaining public confidence in local government and building capacity across the sector. With over 35 years of collective local government experience on our committee, we embraced the opportunity to identify solutions to ensure the system is operating as intended. Accordingly, the committee made 40 recommendations to ensure that a simpler, streamlined and effective councillor complaints and conduct system is delivered for all Queenslanders. I commend the report to the House.