



Speech By  
**Hon. Dr Steven Miles**


**MEMBER FOR MURRUMBA**

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Record of Proceedings, 8 November 2022

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan**

 **Hon. SJ MILES** (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure) (9.47 am): Communities across the Wide Bay-Burnett will soon have a new blueprint for their future, with the draft Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan now open for feedback. It has been 11 years since the release of the last regional plan, and in that time the region has undergone massive change. Updating the regional plan with a 25-year look ahead is vital to respond to these changes. Today I released the draft plan for the community to have its say.

Through a new regional plan for Wide Bay-Burnett we will be able to address issues that are specific to the region. The community is invited to provide feedback up until 24 February 2023. I encourage everyone across the Wide Bay to have their say as it impacts the future of their region. Our successful health response means that Queensland has become an even more attractive place to live, work and raise a family. Wide Bay-Burnett offers people an enviable lifestyle that we know southerners are moving for. Updating the regional plan will ensure the region is best placed to respond to these shifts and improve opportunities for economic development and livability across the region.

Communities of the Wide Bay-Burnett make up Queensland's second largest population, and the region is a true lifestyle destination. The plan will address the needs of more than 300,000 people in communities across the Bundaberg, Cherbourg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, North Burnett and South Burnett local government areas.

As more people move to our regional and rural communities, it is important that communities remain a great place to live. It is crucial that local councils, community and industry are all involved in the updating of the plan. This plan provides a long-term vision for the region to deliver more infrastructure, jobs and services for communities into the future.