

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 519**  
**Asked on 16 April 2008**

MR WELLINGTON asked the Premier (MS BLIGH) -

QUESTION:

With respect to the review of the current South East Queensland Regional Plan—

When will the Government invite the public to make submissions and what criteria must submissions address?

ANSWER:

The *South East Queensland Regional Plan* is the Queensland Government's pre-eminent plan for protecting the region's way of life by managing population growth, land use and development. It ensures our precious open spaces, natural environments and agricultural land, the very things that make South East Queensland such a great place to live in, are not overrun by urban sprawl.

On 5 May 2008, I announced the start of work to update the *South East Queensland Regional Plan*. This review is the first opportunity since its introduction to formally assess its effectiveness and re-evaluate the development and direction of the region over the next 20 years.

The Government has identified a range of existing and emerging issues that will be considered in the review, which include the capacity of the existing urban footprint to accommodate growth to 2031; housing affordability; the need to diversify and decentralise employment opportunities to provide jobs closer to people's residences; adapting to climate change; and reducing traffic congestion.

The Government values community input and there will be a number of opportunities for members of the public and community organisations to have their say on the future planning of the region.

On 10 May 2008, the Government began advertising for the community to nominate key issues for consideration in the review of the regional plan. To assist the public in submitting their nominations, a proforma is available on the website of the Department of Infrastructure and Planning and hard copies are available by contacting that Department's Southern Region Division.

Later this year, when the draft *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2009–2031* is prepared, members of the community will have the opportunity to make submissions on the draft plan in accordance with the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*. It is expected that the release of the draft plan will be in early December 2008. Following the release of the draft plan, the community will have the opportunity to provide submissions until the end of March 2009.