

## Question on Notice

No. 992

Asked on 14 October 2015

**MR RYAN** asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade (MS TRAD) –

### QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline to the House the Queensland Government's proposals for a better planning system for Queensland and how Queenslanders will be able to have their say about these proposals?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Morayfield for his question.

The draft planning Bills are critical to delivering a better planning system in Queensland. The planning Bills are intended to replace the current legislation, the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* (SPA). SPA is long, confusing and has created a culture focussed on process, rather than a holistic review of applications and how it will enhance a local community. Local governments have given feedback to the State for several years that parts of the system are broken; and it does not empower them to plan for their communities in a way that they would like.

For example, a smaller regional council is still required to use the same 'template' (the Queensland Planning Provisions), which an urban council does; even though the majority of the 'content' is not relevant or applicable. This has led to schemes that are longer than they need to be and hard to interpret for the community. The State is suggesting a simplification of this process, so schemes only need to contain core required elements, with the remainder of the scheme being at the discretion of the local government and its community.

Queenslanders have been able to input into the draft planning Bills from 10 September to 23 October 2015. During this time, the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning has undertaken a range of engagement activities across the State to speak with as many Queenslanders and community groups as possible about the planning system and the draft planning Bills. These activities included 'Meet the Planner' sessions, community conversations, and live streamed events covering various aspects of the draft Bills. The Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DILGP) also created several explanatory videos to help describe the main elements of the changes under Plan Making, Development Assessment, Dispute Resolution, Community Engagement and Transitional Provisions (all available at [www.dilgp.qld.gov.au/planning-reform](http://www.dilgp.qld.gov.au/planning-reform)).

After the Bills are refined following a detailed analysis of the feedback, they will then be introduced to the Parliament for review and scrutiny. Queenslanders will have another opportunity to have their say during that review period. DILGP will continue to connect and collaborate with community on better planning for Queensland as we move through the reform process.