

Question on Notice
No. 130
Asked on 6 February 2020

Ms S Bolton asked Premier and Minister for Trade (Hon. A Palaszczuk)—

QUESTION:

With reference to community consultation processes—

Will the Premier consider a review of government consultation processes including extending the minimum consultation periods set and excluding major holiday periods such as Christmas as part of improving the engagement process?

ANSWER:

Consultation with persons or organisations external to the Queensland Government is an important part of policy development and is something that I expect of Ministers and their departments.

It is also appropriate that such persons or organisations be afforded a reasonable period of time to provide any feedback or submissions to government, although this may need to be balanced against the urgency of the issue.

I am not aware of any recent issues in this regard, but if the Member for Noosa has any concerns around a recent consultation process, I would encourage the member to raise these concerns with the relevant Minister.

Under my Government, the core matters of the parliamentary committee system have been statutorily recognised in the *Constitution of Queensland 2001*, and the Constitution and Standing Orders have been amended to provide that Bills must be referred to committees for examination for a period of at least six weeks.

While the Parliament retains the right to declare a Bill urgent or refer a Bill to a committee for an examination of less than six weeks, using such a procedure under my Government only occurs in rare and exceptional circumstances e.g. the Public Health (Declared Public Health Emergencies) Amendment Bill 2020.