

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 867**

**Asked on 17 June 2021**

**DR A MACMAHON** ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON S FENTIMAN) –

### **QUESTION:**

With reference to the government's Community Titles Legislation Working Group (CTLWG), established in 2021 in conjunction with minor updates to body corporate law in Queensland—

Will the Attorney-General advise (a) the CTLWG's terms of reference, (b) who are its members and (c) how frequently it meets?

### **ANSWER:**

As the Member is aware, in the lead up to the 2020 State general election, the Palaszczuk Government committed to establishing a Community Titles Legislation Working Group, comprising key stakeholder representatives, to consider a wide range of community titles issues.

The purpose and role of the working group is to provide advice to the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) on matters within the working group's scope of issues, including regulatory and non-regulatory solutions. The complexity and volume of those issues means the working group will consider issues in stages.

I am pleased to inform the Member that the working group held its inaugural meeting on 14 April 2021. The meeting saw 27 representatives from 13 organisations consider arrangements for approval of alternative insurance; the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) Northern Australia Insurance Inquiry recommendations relating to community titles schemes; and reform recommendations made by the Queensland University of Technology review of property law for the Government relating to the termination of community titles schemes and seller disclosure for community titles lots.

Participants at the first working group meeting have provided submissions on the issues discussed at the meeting. DJAG is carefully considering the submissions in preparation for the working group's next meeting, which is scheduled for 22 July 2021.

Consistent with its terms of reference, the working group is also expected to address the following issues:

- consideration of outstanding recommendations of the QUT property law review, including by-laws, debt recovery, and remaining administrative and procedural reforms;
- whether regulation of body corporate managers is in the best interest of Queenslanders;
- dispute resolution;
- management rights and enforcement of caretaking duties;
- residential amenity;
- bullying and harassment within community titles schemes; and

- harmonising the *Building Units and Group Titles Act 1980* with the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997*.

The working group plans to meet quarterly but may also deal with some issues out-of-session, where necessary or appropriate.

The working group's membership includes representatives from the following organisations:

- Australian College of Strata Lawyers;
- Australian Resident Accommodation Managers Association (Qld);
- Department of Justice and Attorney-General;
- Owners Corporation Network (Qld);
- Queensland Law Society;
- Real Estate Institute of Queensland;
- Strata Community Association (Qld); and
- Unit Owners Association of Queensland Inc.

In recognition that specific community titles issues may be of interest to a broader range of stakeholders, or can benefit from input from relevant experts, the terms of reference provide scope for the working group to invite other organisations and individuals to have input into the working group's deliberations from time to time, including:

- Animal Welfare League of Queensland;
- Mr Gary Bugden (Professor of Strata and Community Titles, Bond University);
- Cancer Council Queensland;
- Heart Foundation of Australia (Qld);
- Insurance Council of Australia;
- Local Government Association of Queensland;
- Property Council of Australia;
- Queensland Tourism Industry Council;
- Queensland University of Technology;
- RSPCA (Qld);
- Tenants Queensland;
- Urban Development Institute of Australia (Qld); and
- Queensland Government agencies.