



## PLANNING REFORM ENGAGEMENT

August 2018

**The Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) is consulting and engaging with government, industry and the South Australian community on planning reforms in a wide variety of ways including through:**

### 3 Ministerial Advisory Committees

- Three Ministerial Advisory Committees have been established under the new Act to assist with implementation:
  - Community Participation Sustainability Advisory Committee
  - Development Industry Advisory Committee
  - Local Government Advisory Committee
- These Committees comprise approximately 30 people who represent the interests of local government, industry and community engagement sector. Six meetings for each group, plus one full group workshop has also been undertaken.
- Their role is to engage with their key sectors and to provide feedback and advice to the Minister for Planning on matters they consider during development and implementation of the planning reform program.

### Industry Liaison Group

- The Industry Liaison Group is made up of around 15 senior representatives of major planning and development sector organisations:
  - Property Council of Australia
  - Urban Development Institute
  - Planning Institute
  - Architect Institute of Australia
  - Master Builders Association
  - Housing Industry Association.
- A key responsibility of this group is to receive information and share with their respective organisations through their boards and committees and provide advice and feedback on the development of the reform program back through to the Department as it progresses.
- In addition to meeting with this group, the Department regularly attends committee meetings / member events to present and share information on all things planning reform.

## State Agency Reference Group

- Made up of key state government agencies with an interest in the planning system.
- This group has been fundamental in the development and delivery of the first draft suite of State Planning Policies.
- Currently the same groups is beginning to work on state agency referrals required for development assessment purposes once the new system goes live in local areas.

## Local Government Collaboration

- **Transition Managers** - The Department has allocated a transition manager to each Council to assist in the transition to the new system. The DPTI transition team collectively travelled over 27,000 kilometres to meet with all 68 councils. Transition managers are working with Council planners to review their development plan to assist in transitioning to the new Planning and Design Code.
- **Council Roadshow** - 4 metro and 5 Regional Council Workshops were held across South Australia in early-mid 2017 to inform Council planners of the reform program and how it will affect them.
- **LGA Partnership** – DPTI has seconded one staff member to the LGA to support implementation of the new system across local government.

## Working Groups

A range of other working groups relating to various key components of the reform program, all of which are made up of planning and development / allied professionals, including:

- **Code Drafting** - Dedicated workshops have been conducted with over 50 planning practitioners drawn from an expression of interest list, of approximately 200 people, to inform development and assist with drafting of the Code.
- **ePlanning** - Fortnightly ePlanning development application workshops are currently being held with 13 representative Councils to progress the development application process through ePlanning.
- **Assessment pathways and regulations** - Workshops have been held and are still scheduled to occur (two are planned for August 2018) with public and private sector planners and lawyers to develop the new development assessment process under the PDI Act. The intention is that the consultation process ensures that as much useful process from the Development Regulations system can be carried forward, as well as education and innovative thinking about how the new development assessment process can be structured.
- **Joint planning boards** - A Joint Planning Boards toolkit has been established through a pilot program, which involved 40 councils across eight regional groupings. The project was supported by a Project Governance Advisory Committee (including representation from the LGA), Project Working Advisory Group (with Council representation from the 8 regions).
- **Accredited professionals** - Two workshops on the Accreditation Scheme for planning practitioners to discuss key aspects of the Accredited Professionals Discussion Paper and CPD Educational Program were conducted in March/April this year. Further consultation will take place with the release of regulations.

- **Planning Together Panel for Community Engagement Charter** - The Planning Together Panel was the central focus for engagement in developing the draft Charter. The panel process was designed and facilitated by democracyCo and included 50 randomly selected citizens working alongside 53 invited 'stakeholder' organisations over 4 days to develop the draft principles, outcomes and measures in the Draft Charter

## Flagship Engagement Events

- A **Carparking Summit** for metropolitan councils and industry groups was held in April 2018 to explore car parking concerns, issues and solutions, particularly in inner metropolitan Adelaide. Key note speakers include Dr Elizabeth Taylor from RMIT and Principal of MRCagney Mr Steven Burgess. This event was presented as part of the P&D Code Blueprint discussion paper on Integrated Movement Systems.
- A **Symposium on Planning for a New Retirement Future** is being held in August at SAMHRI. This event will bring together key stakeholders to discuss issues and identify potential solutions to improve planning policy and processes around aged care and retirement living.

## State Planning Commission Events

- In May this year the Commission held three interactive workshops at ODASA to share early insights with interested industry and community representatives on the draft State Planning Policies and Planning and Design Code discussion papers. These workshops were live streamed to the regional areas enabling those not within metro Adelaide to hear from the Commission directly.
- In August, the Commission will host a State Planning Policies workshop with the LGA and open its doors to hear individual deputations on these policies and other planning reform initiatives.

## Planning Reform Communications and Engagement

- **SA Planning Portal & State Planning Commission website** - The SA Planning Portal is our major online platform for communicating planning information including reform progress. On average, the SA Planning Portal receives over 5000 unique visits per month. In addition, the department maintains the State Planning Commission website, which receives over 2000 unique visits per month, to advise of high level planning decisions.
- **YourSAy engagement** - Planning Reform consultation is being conducted via the State Government's YourSAy website which has over 112,000 registered users and 40,000 newsletter subscribers. Items currently on consultation include the draft State Planning Policies, the Integrated Movement Systems and Natural Resources and Environment Policy Discussion Papers. A further four consultations on Assessment Pathways, Performance Indicators, People and Neighbourhoods and Productive Economies discussion papers are planned in the next two months. YourSAy offers South Australians the opportunity to provide feedback via surveys, polls, discussion boards and written submissions.
- **What We Have Heard** - On completion of every consultation the department produces a What We Have Heard Report which is distributed to all respondents and published on the SA Planning Portal.

- **Planning Ahead/Building Standard Newsletters** - DPTI publishes *Planning Ahead*, a monthly e-newsletter that is distributed to over 1400 subscribers, of which over 1200 are external to DPTI. The newsletter provides regular updates on planning reform progress as well as announcements on the release of important consultation opportunities and events subscribers can participate in. The Building Standard Newsletter covers news from the building sector about legislative and technical changes, policy initiatives and training.
- **Council Connect** - The Department has established Council Connect – an online platform which provides an interactive chat forum for DPTI and councils to have specific discussions on all aspects of the new planning system. Council Connect is for Council Practitioners only to discuss matters directly with DPTI. Over 150 Council Users from 57 Councils plus LGA representatives are currently registered with Council Connect.
- **Planning Reform Drop In Sessions** - The department offers regular drop in sessions at 50 Flinders St to provide individuals within the planning industry or the general community the opportunity to meet one-on-one with senior members of the planning reform team. These sessions commenced in June 2018.
- **Focus Groups** - The planning reform communications team conduct focus groups on specific reform topics as required. Two focus groups were conducted earlier this year to support the carparking review and summit. Focus groups are currently being planned to engage the community on the draft State Planning Policies and four Code policy discussion papers.
- **Industry Events** - State Planning Commission members and senior members of the Planning Reform team regularly present at Industry Conferences as key note presenters and on panel discussions including the PIA State Conference in March and the UDIA State Conference in August this year.
- **Regional Tours** - Members of the planning reform transition team regularly meet with regional and metro councils on planning reform issues. In 2017 four metro and six regional council roadshows were conducted. In addition the transition team conducted a regional tour of all 68 councils from Oct-Dec 2017. Additional regional council roadshows are being planned for 2018/2019.
- **Live Streaming** - Whenever possible, workshops and presentations on reform elements are livestreamed to provide an opportunity for those in the regions to be kept informed and participate in Q&A sessions. Six livestream events have taken place this year covering Community Engagement Charter, Accredited Professionals, State Planning Policies, each Policy Discussion paper, and ePlanning. Further live stream events are planned including Assessment Pathways in August.
- **Videos** - We have released several videos about the new planning system to help educate audiences of the changes. To date videos have been released on the Community Engagement Charter, the Accredited Professionals Scheme, the new Planning and Design Code and the draft State Planning Policies. More videos are planned in the coming months and will be released on the SA Planning Portal and via DPTI's social media channels.
- **Social Media** - Planning reform news and updates are regularly shared on DPTI's social media platforms that have a combined audience of 60,000. Both organic and promoted posts are being made promoting reform consultation opportunities on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. The State Planning Commission also promotes planning reform updates on its LinkedIn account.