

Ministerial Statement



Hon Paul Holloway

Minister for Police

Minister for Mineral Resources

Development

Minister for Urban Development and Planning

Tuesday June 19, 2007

PLANNING REVIEW

I seek leave to make a Ministerial Statement.

Mr President, one of the key aims of the Rann Government is to make South Australia the most competitive place in Australasia in which to do business.

We also want to achieve a competitive advantage based on effectiveness and efficiency, and to have the nation's most effective planning and development system.

The Government has already begun the reform process, with significant progress in areas such as Council Development Assessment Panels, the Better Development Plans program, the Industrial Land Strategy, and protecting heritage.

However, it's clear there's a need for further reform to improve and streamline our planning and development processes, and to ensure contemporary policy agendas are handled more effectively within the planning system.

Consequently, the Government has initiated the State's most intensive and wide-ranging review of the planning system, with a view to ensuring South Australia leads the nation in planning reform.

The **State Planning and Development Review** will deliver a new wave of reform to build on the important planning system changes already implemented by the Government.

It will focus on the planning system in its broadest sense, including South Australia's planning agency Planning SA, its culture, and its relationship with local government.

The Review will be directed by a small, independent steering committee, reporting to the Minister, and the committee will engage additional expertise as required during the Review process.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, **Michael O'Brien MP**, will chair the steering committee.

The committee membership includes **Michael Hickinbotham**, **Fiona Roche** and **Grant Belchamber** from the Economic Development Board, **Tim Jackson** and **Stuart Moseley** from local government, and planning law expert **Jamie Botten**.

The steering committee will report progressively to the Government during the course of the Review to ensure early adoption and implementation of recommendations for reform.

It's expected the steering committee will complete its work by the end of this year.

The main objectives of the Review and the resulting reforms will be to:

- Realise a range of targets and objectives in South Australia's Strategic Plan;
- Establish South Australia as the most competitive place in Australasia in which to do business;
- Improve the performance, timeliness, certainty and accountability of the planning system – in both State and Local Government arenas; and
- Review the role and responsibilities of Planning SA and Local Government - within the overall planning system.

The reforms likely to result from the Review process will help the Government to deliver a number of economic, social and environmental targets of the South Australian Strategic Plan.

The Economic Development Board has identified the need for planning reforms to help implement economic development in South Australia.

While much of that reform has been achieved, this next stage will ensure South Australia is a leader in an area critical to the State's competitiveness.