

## OVERVIEW

*The Government is committed to reforming our planning system to make it fairer, faster, cheaper and simpler for all Tasmanians.*

*As the first major step, Government will introduce a Bill to Parliament this year.*

*We will work closely with local government and stakeholders through the Planning Reform Taskforce to deliver on the reforms.*

*The Taskforce, reporting to the Minister for Planning and Local Government, will ensure the changes are informed by expert advice to achieve an efficient and effective planning system that supports economic growth.*

*The proposed Bill will support the transition to a single statewide planning scheme outcome as a key platform of the reforms.*

*It will also deliver a range of reforms that contribute to a fairer, faster, cheaper and simpler planning system.*

### Why are the changes needed?

Under the current approach, it could take up to 4 years to finalise the interim planning schemes across the State, in preparation for introducing a single statewide planning scheme approach.

The proposed Bill, along with changes to administrative practice and a streamlined process for amending planning schemes will support the interim schemes being finalised in 2015.

This will give a consistent structure to all our planning schemes, as a basis for the new statewide planning scheme provisions.

These reforms build on the substantial investment by local government in preparing the interim planning schemes.

The Bill will also implement a number of the Government's announced reforms and recommendations from the Taskforce.

### What will change?

The Bill will make a series of changes to the process for finalising interim planning schemes.

While the public can still make representations about their concerns there will be greater flexibility in how these issues and public hearings are managed and coordinated regionally.

A single, streamlined process for amending planning schemes will replace the current dispensation process.

There will also be one consolidated set of criteria in the Act allowing for minor or urgent amendments that do not prejudice the public interest to be made without public exhibition.

Other changes include:

- a shorter assessment timeframe of 21 days for permitted use and development;
- a higher \$600 appeal fee for certain third parties on discretionary permits;
- allowing interim planning directives to replace or revoke existing planning directives to deal with urgent planning matters;
- allowing councils to extend a permit for an additional 2 years;
- providing copyright and indemnity protection for making data on planning schemes available online;
- extending the provision for the reconstruction of accidentally destroyed buildings and works to include conforming uses; and
- clearer provisions for where minor amendments to permits can occur

Changes will also be made to the *Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993* to allow a planning scheme to regulate subdivisions, including determining where a subdivision may be a permitted or discretionary development.

#### Fact Sheets Available

1. Overview, 2. Interim Planning Schemes, 3. Streamlined Amendment Process, 4. Other Amendments

*This fact sheet reflects the proposed changes the Government is consulting on through the Planning Reform Taskforce*

## Will there be further planning reforms?

The Government intends to introduce further legislation in 2015 to provide a framework for a single statewide planning scheme approach and to implement its remaining planning reforms.

These include commitments relating to major projects, ministerial call-in powers, in-principal approval and further measures relating to third-party appeals.

Government will continue to consult through the Taskforce on these proposed reforms.

The Taskforce will also play a key role in developing the content of the statewide planning scheme provisions.