

Our reference: DEPBN24/419



24 April 2024

Department of  
**Housing, Local Government,  
Planning and Public Works**

To whom it may concern

In February 2024, the Honourable Meaghan Scanlon MP, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works launched the Homes for Queenslanders plan for a fair and sustainable housing system that ensures better housing outcomes both now and for future generations.

Under the first pillar of Homes for Queenslanders—more homes, faster—the *Housing Availability and Affordability (Planning and Other Legislation Amendment) Bill 2023* (the Bill) plays a critical role by reviewing planning legislation to deliver more quality homes in the right locations – faster than ever before.

The Bill is also a critical part of Queensland’s response to the national planning reforms and the national planning reform blueprint.

The Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works (the department) is pleased to advise that on 16 April 2024 the Bill passed through the Queensland Parliament.

In particular, the Bill will introduce a new alternative development approval pathway and the emphasis on prioritising planning amendments to support diverse housing across a range of areas, including the delivery of infill and affordable housing.

The Bill amends the *Planning Act 2016*, introducing new measures aimed at improving the planning framework’s response to housing supply challenges. The amendments:

- optimise the planning framework’s response to the current housing challenge through a suit of tools
- cut barriers and support more diverse housing across a range of areas, including the delivery of infill and affordable housing
- make operational and process improvements to ensure that the planning framework continues to be effective and robust.

To effectively facilitate the implementation of the objectives of the Bill, the department has proposed several amendments to the Planning Regulation, the Minister’s Guidelines and Rules (MGR) and the Development Assessment (DA) Rules.

In accordance with statutory requirements, public consultation on the proposed amendments to the DA Rules and MGR will occur for 20 business days. These amendments are now on public consultation until 21 May 2024 and I would encourage you to provide feedback to the department, if required. Any comments on the proposed Planning Regulation amendments can also be made during this timeframe. A copy of the amended instruments is available at the below link and the gazette notices are enclosed.

For information including viewing supporting information on key changes or to have your say, please visit <https://yoursay.housing.qld.gov.au/housing-availability-and-affordability-planning-and-other-legislation-amendment-bill-2023> and provide your feedback by 21 May 2024.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Mr Christopher Aston, Executive Director, Policy and Statutory Planning in the department by telephone on (07) 3452 6822 or by email at [christopher.aston@dSDLGP.qld.gov.au](mailto:christopher.aston@dSDLGP.qld.gov.au) who will be please to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TPG', written in a cursive style.

Tess Pickering  
**Deputy Director-General  
Planning Group**

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