



**Government
of South Australia**

Deputy Premier
Attorney-General
Minister for Justice Reform
Minister for Planning
Minister for Industrial Relations
Minister for Child Protection
Reform
Minister for the Public Sector
Minister for Consumer and
Business Services
Minister for the City of
Adelaide

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21 June 2016

Dr Helen Wilmore, PhD
President
Community Alliance SA Inc.
PO Box 520
GOODWOOD SA 5034

Dear Dr Wilmore

Thank you for your letter dated 23 May 2016 regarding the implementation of planning reforms following the passage of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Bill 2015 through the South Australian Parliament on 12 April 2016.

The *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* (the Act) sets the framework for a contemporary and competitive planning system for South Australia. The new Act provides for:

- An independent and professional State Planning Commission.
- Tools to support local governments to undertake planning and assessment on a regional basis.
- Improved community engagement in the planning process including the creation of an engagement charter.
- The Environment and Food Production Areas, to curb urban sprawl and protect the economically and environmentally significant food bowl.
- Infrastructure schemes to support more efficient and effective roll out of basic and essential infrastructure in growth areas.
- A new focus on design, with the requirement for a State Planning Policy and the opportunity to make better use of design review panels.
- A state planning and design code to significantly reduce the duplication and confusion caused by 68 individual council plans.
- A new assessment system that provides greater certainty for people wanting to undertake development and more tools to assess simple and complex applications.
- An emphasis on professional decision making with largely independent assessment panels, accredited professionals and assessment managers.

More detailed information is available at the following website
www.dpti.sa.gov.au/planning/planning_reform.

Given the scale of the reform program, the Government is working to a five year implementation program that includes time to research best practice, engage with stakeholders

and test the new systems and frameworks. The first year is largely about setting up the new system and will require significant input from all stakeholders.

One of the key priorities for the first year is the development of the Community Engagement Charter. We are currently scoping the extent and nature of work required to develop the Community Engagement Charter in the context of the wider reform program.

I welcome your offer to work on the development of the Charter. Officers from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) will be in contact with you shortly to see how we might collaborate on this important initiative and meet with your nominated contact in the near future. DPTI looks forward to the opportunity to work with your organisation to deliver a modern and competitive planning system for all South Australians.

In the meantime, should you wish to discuss this further you can contact DPTI's Manager, Planning Reform, Ms Anita Allen, on 7109 7099 or via email at Anita.Allen@sa.gov.au

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



John Rau
Deputy Premier
Minister for Planning

Engaging for Reform



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Community Alliance
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Cc: Andrew Grear, Department of Planning, Transport & Infrastructure
Andrew.Grear@sa.gov.au

23rd May 2016

Dear Minister,

The Community Alliance SA is the peak body representing resident and community groups concerned with planning and development in South Australia. We recognise that the built environment has a considerable impact on the well-being of its citizens and consider that planning should be a democratic process. The Community Alliance SA supports planning reform and played an active part in the Expert Panel's consultation process through focus groups and submissions, and in lobbying for better outcomes from a community perspective during the passage of the new legislation.

The Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2015 establishes a high level framework for the new planning system, with the detailed statutory requirements to be implemented through Regulations, policies, Design Code, a Heritage Bill and other subsidiary documents.

The Community Alliance SA would welcome the opportunity to have some input into those documents prior to their adoption. The proposed Community Engagement Charter is of particular interest as engagement and empowerment at the policy level will be essential in a planning regime that excludes the community as a third party in the assessment and appeals processes.

We believe that there should be an ongoing opportunity for further consultation with interest groups during the next stage of the planning reform. The Community Alliance SA would be happy to meet with you or your representative to discuss the next steps and our involvement in a future consultation process.

I look forward to your response,

Helen Wilmore

Dr Helen Wilmore, PhD
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