

Community Alliance SA Inc  
PO Box 520  
Goodwood, SA 5034

Engaging for Reform



28 March 2019

The Hon Stephan Knoll MP  
Minister for Planning  
Email: [ministerknoll@sa.gov.au](mailto:ministerknoll@sa.gov.au)

**RE: Consultation process for People and Neighbourhoods "Suite of Materials"**

Dear Minister,

Thank you once again for addressing our members at the Community Alliance annual general meeting last November. It was great to have the opportunity to outline community concerns about the planning reform process and listen to your views. We were particularly grateful that you were able to stay for questions and respond with respectful and honest answers.

We recently read in the DPTA 'Planning Ahead' newsletter that the long awaited "People and Neighbourhoods Discussion Paper" was being replaced in the short term with a 'suite of materials', which will be discussed only with 'councils and 'practitioners' (see attached). Instead, it appears that the discussion paper will be incorporated into the consultation documents for the Planning and Design Code, and that consultation with the community will be only available during the statutory process.

Can you please define for our members who the 'practitioners' are, and why community groups are not included in this consultation? We fear that 'practitioners' will include developer lobby groups which will unfairly skew the consultation process. If consultation with community groups is left to the 'statutory' process only, it will be a missed opportunity and will not be received well by the community.

Our members would also like to know what topics will be included in the 'suite of materials' and the details of how the consultation process will proceed with councils and practitioners?

Despite meeting with DPTI staff and Michael Lennon in recent weeks, it was disappointing that we received this information via the newsletter. As such, we were not in a position to answer any of the questions from our members.

We look forward to your response to the above questions, and reiterate that we are willing to work with the Government for better planning solutions for all South Australians.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Mex".

**Dr Christel Mex**  
President  
0401 126 173

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom".

**Mr Tom Matthews**  
Secretary  
0429 337 453

## ATTACHMENT

Excerpt from the DPTI “Planning Ahead” newsletter, March 2019 edition.

-----

## Talking about our people and neighbourhoods



Due to overwhelming feedback from our communities about the number of planning reform documents currently on consultation, the State Planning Commission has agreed to postpone the release of the *People and Neighbourhoods Discussion Paper*. This paper will be released at a future point in time and will focus on the next generation of the Planning and Design Code (i.e. after July 2020). A suite of materials that explains how our neighbourhoods will be addressed in the new planning system, including heritage and character, will be available in the coming weeks. These materials will form the basis of targeted discussions with councils and practitioners and will be explored more broadly with the community when Phase Two and Phase Three of the Code are released on statutory consultation (mid-2019 and late-2019, respectively). More information will soon be available on the [SA Planning Portal](#).