The Hon Brad Hazzard MP
Minister for Planning & Infrastructure
Minister assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

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TOO COMPLICATED: NSW RESIDENTS’ VIEWS OF THE PLANNING SYSTEM

The State’s most comprehensive review of the planning system has resulted in today’s release of the Issues Paper from the Planning System Review panel co-chairs, Tim Moore and Ron Dyer by the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard.

The Issues Paper summarises what communities from Broken Hill to Byron Bay have to say about the NSW planning system - what they want changed and what issues require further discussion.

“Nearly 2,000 people have attended 91 community forums as part of the system review, while over 70 stakeholder meetings have been held,” Minister Hazzard said.

“This is the most ambitious consultation process the NSW planning system has been subject to in decades – this issues paper outlines the key themes and questions raised along the way.

“But this is not the end – the paper poses its own questions and seeks further feedback from the community in areas including development assessment, plan-making, appeals, reviews and compliance.

“Aside from the face-to-face consultation, more than 300 written submissions have also been considered.

“Mr Moore and Mr Dyer are now seeking further feedback on the key themes to help them develop policy options to be given to the Government by the end of April 2012.

“People have made it clear that they find the current system far too complex and want simpler processes.

“There was also a lot of discussion about whether the planning system should be flexible or prescriptive in nature.

“This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for people to shape the legislation that determines how their regions, communities and streets are shaped in the future.

“I am urging all residents, industry and community groups to view the Issues Paper, send forward their submissions and engage in this truly exciting and historic opportunity,” Minister Hazzard said.

The issues paper is available at www.planningreview.nsw.gov.au

Comments and submissions on the issues paper are invited until 17 February 2012.

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