MEDIA RELEASE

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COMMUNITY AND COUNCILS TO SHAPE NEW PLANNING SYSTEM

Minister Hazzard today welcomed the input of local government and community representatives on the biggest reform of the planning system in 30 years.

“Overhauling the planning system is a big step but one that must involve the community to restore trust in the planning system,” Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

“Today I met with council representatives from across the State to seek their input into the way they can shape the future growth of their local areas.

“Under the White Paper which was released yesterday, councils will work together with their communities to develop a community participation plan to help shape the future of their local areas.

“Today’s forum is one of several White Paper workshops that will be held in coming weeks.

“Yesterday I met with representatives from community groups who continue to engage with the Government on the future of the planning system.

“After 16 years of Labor the community grew sick of behind closed door deals that removed them from the planning process.

“As Minister I immediately abolished the Part 3A system that had lead community members to believe Labor Ministers were doing deals for dollars through process that ICAC repeatedly identified as a corruption risk.

“This new planning system will be built on community engagement and participation and will bring the system into the 21st Century.

“More material available online including interactive 3D modelling will make it easier for communities to see how future development will shape their area – and they will no longer be stuck figuring out floor space ratios and height limits.

“Overhauling the planning system has been a two-year process with consultation at the heart from day one.

“Communities and councils are the foundation for the new planning system, and together they will shape the future of our State,” Mr Hazzard said.

MEDIA: Adam Raskall 0409 565 083