



Brad Hazzard MP

Minister for Planning & Infrastructure

Minister assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

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COMMUNITIES WILL SHAPE PLANNING'S FUTURE

The NSW Government has launched a State-wide consultation blitz for the community, councils and industry to get involved in the State's new planning system.

"The NSW Government promised to return planning powers back to the people and that is what we are doing with communities to decide the future of their areas at the start of the planning process rather than at the end," Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

"Last month I released the White Paper: *A New Planning System for NSW*, which signalled the final phase of a mass consultation process that began in 2011.

"Now a comprehensive program has been developed in partnership with the Centre for Local Government at the University of Technology Sydney," Mr Hazzard said.

Ongoing consultation includes:

- Community consultation sessions in more than 18 locations across NSW
- Consultation sessions with councils and planning professionals
- A community forum hosted by the Better Planning Network
- An environmental working group facilitated by the Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney
- A community working group facilitated by the Centre for Local Government, University of Technology Sydney
- A workshop for industry leaders co-ordinated by the Committee for Sydney
- A planners working group hosted by the Planning Institute of Australia; and
- A Parliament House discussion forum with State and local planners.

"Across NSW 2,500 people will be surveyed for their views on the new planning system," Mr Hazzard said.

"A deliberative forum will be held in Sydney and one in regional NSW with separate nominated public panels to give written advice on key issues.

"Community participation will be enshrined in the new planning system and this unprecedented level of consultation reflects the way of the future for planning," Mr Hazzard said.

The White Paper will be on public exhibition until **28 June 2013** and can be viewed online at: www.planning.nsw.gov.au/newplanningsystem

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