



Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MP
Member for Stafford



Minister for Infrastructure and Planning

Media Release

Friday, 26 February 2010

Ban the banners legislation to be revised for building covenants

Minister for Infrastructure and Planning Stirling Hinchliffe has announced the State Government's intention to revise the "Ban the Banners" legislation as it relates to building covenants.

"Late last year the government introduced a series of measures that were aimed at increasing the sustainability of new houses constructed in Queensland," Mr Hinchliffe said.

"This was in response to concerns raised by home owners who were prevented from doing this by covenants and body corporate by-laws imposed by some developers."

Some covenants and body corporate by-laws had been used to prevent sensible sustainable housing features such as light coloured roofs, solar hot water and solar panels being installed.

Mr Hinchliffe said he had requested feedback from industry based on the practical application of the policy.

"I must acknowledge that during this period of consultation that industry support for the policy principle seeking to stop these particular practices has been forthcoming and is to be commended," Mr Hinchliffe said.

During recent consultations, some peak bodies within the property sector raised concerns regarding some unforeseen impacts of the legislation.

"As a government we acknowledge that the scope and impact of the legislation introduced was greater than that which we originally promised during the 2009 election," Mr Hinchliffe said.

"Industry has raised concerns that these additional requirements could possibly have a detrimental impact on the sector. Further we were advised that confidence in the sector is still low and that the implementation of all of the requirements detailed in the legislation may hamper its resurgence.

"It must be acknowledged that Global Financial Crisis has seen a significant decline in confidence within the property development industry. Its impacts are still real and we have not yet seen it put to rest.

"It is in the industries own interest to deliver a diverse housing product which is suitable to the various needs and desires of Queenslanders. I am sure that the Queensland property development sector can and will meet those desires."

The revised legislation will allow this to be delivered and that Bligh Government's election commitment of 2009 is fully met.

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