Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

Inquiry into the Territory Plan and other associated documents ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by Jo Clay MLA:

Reference: Inquiry into the Territory Plan and other associated documents

In relation to: Planning Governance Review

The Planning Governance Review is underway. During the recent hearings into the new Territory Plan being conducted by the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services the lack of input by the community was raised by some of the people giving evidence.

Why didn't the terms of reference for the Planning Governance Review include input from the community?

Mr Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Chief Minister has responsibility for this matter, and I provide the following answer on his behalf.

The terms of reference specifically allow the reviewer to:

- Engage with stakeholders the reviewer determines would be of assistance in assessing the effectiveness of the new governance arrangement; and
- Take account of relevant public feedback provided to the ACT Planning System Review and Reform Project and Standing Committee Inquiry into the Planning Bill.

The public has had significant opportunity to provide feedback on governance around the planning system through the ACT Planning System Review and Reform project Yoursay engagement in 2022 and 2023, and the two recent Assembly inquiries.

Many of the public submissions made on the planning reforms reference matters of governance, including key roles within the planning system; transparency, accountability; and decision-making. All of these matters are within the scope of the governance review, and may be considered by the reviewer.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

Signature:

Date: 20/12/23

By the Minister for Planning, Chris Steel MLA