

24 November 2017

Ms Carolyn McNally

Secretary

Department of Planning & Environment

[Regulation.Review@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Regulation.Review@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Ms McNally,

## **Re: Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 Review – Issues Paper**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000 Review – Issues Paper* (the Issues Paper). We raise the following matters for your consideration.

### **1. The Urban Taskforce supports the objectives of the review**

The Urban Taskforce has advocated for improvements to the NSW planning system including streamlining of regulation and ongoing reviews of existing legislation to ensure the planning system remains relevant.

We acknowledge and support the objectives of the review of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000* (the Regulation) outlined in the Issues Paper in particular:

- Reduction of administrative burden upon practitioners and organisations who use the NSW planning system, such as councils, town planners, and developers;
- Reduction of the complexity of the system; and
- Establishment of a simpler, more modern and transparent planning system.

Where possible, provisions should be simplified and consolidated to reduce administrative burden and make the planning system simpler to use and easier to understand.

### **2. Amendments to the Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000 must be exhibited before they are finalised**

Any amendments to the Regulation must be publicly exhibited with sufficient time for stakeholders to review the draft legislation and provide feedback to the Department.

The Regulation will be the primary vehicle for implementing recent changes to the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979*. These changes will introduce a range of new requirements, including the requirement for consent authorities to prepare Community Participation Plans and each council to prepare a Local Strategic Planning Statements. The details of these new requirements will be contained in the Regulation. It is critical that these provisions are well drafted, clear and concise.

We request that the Department allow industry groups and other stakeholders the opportunity to examine the draft amendments to the Regulation before these changes are introduced to Parliament and finalised.

The Urban Taskforce is always willing to work closely with the Government to provide a development industry perspective on any proposed amendments to the Regulation. Please feel free to contact me on telephone number 9238 3927 to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

Chris Johnson AM  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Urban Taskforce Australia**