

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

4 March 2018

RESPONSE TO THE MACEDON RANGES LOCALISED PLANNING STATEMENT CONSULTATION DRAFT

Macedon Ranges had clear planning policy protection in the Statement of Planning Policy No. 8 (SPP8) – Macedon Ranges and Surrounds 1975. Over the years subsequent state governments have gradually undermined this planning policy. The Daniel Andrew's Labor Government promised legislative protection based upon SPP8. Instead we have been presented with a Localised Planning Statement which is intended to become the Statement of Planning Policy. Instead of being based upon SPP8 the Localised Planning Statement represents the final nail in the coffin for the SPP8.

Current town boundaries already cater for growth out to 2036 without the requirement of additional land. The Localised Planning Statement ignores the current town boundaries, replacing them with settlement boundaries that have no protection as required by legislation. The settlement boundaries allow for vast increases in population growth well beyond what has previously been planned for. For residents of Gisborne and Romsey we are being asked to support the Localised Planning Statement without having the opportunity to view any plans for our towns for the next 18 to 24 months. Given the size of the new settlement boundaries proposed for the other towns in the region it scares me to think what the government, under pressure from land developers, has in mind for us. Such rapid expansion of the towns in the Macedon Ranges will change the nature of the liveability and nature of our towns making them satellite suburban sprawls. The Localised Planning Statement is a plan for growth not protection.

In summary my assessment of this document is that it is full of well-meaning feel good statements and platitudes that does not provide planning policy protection.

It is completely lacking substance and strategic processes to provide guaranteed protection for the Shire of Macedon Ranges and opens up our regional towns to developers well beyond what is currently planned for.

The Localised Planning Statement is not a Statement of Planning Policy and should not be permitted to be proclaimed as such.

I completely reject the Macedon Ranges Localised Planning Statement.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]