

May 2021

On 28 May 2021, Western Australian (WA) Premier Mark McGowan, Planning Minister Rita Saffioti and Local Government Minister John Carey, announced phase two of their planning reforms.

This phase will seek community, industry and stakeholder feedback to further streamline the planning system across the local government sector. Submissions are open until late October 2021.

Phase Two Reforms

Over the next three months, the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage Planning Reform team alongside the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries will seek input on the legislative drafting of further planning system reform including on improved processes and increased access to information.

Possible reforms will be workshopped and tested by a local government red tape working group.

In addition, the following measures have been proposed:

- Establishment of a Special Matters Development Panel to consider significant developments proposed by the State.
- A State referral co-ordination process to allow co-ordination of State agency, utilities and department referrals for significant development applications.
- Creation of a planning portal to provide a single source of information to the public, industry and local government.

Phase One Reforms

Following review of the Local Planning Strategies, new measures such as consistent community consultation and new onsite signage for complex development applications are now required.

A new approvals process has been implemented for significant developments and changes to the Development Assessment Panel (DAP) system. These changes include improved transparency requirements and the appointment of permanent DAP staff to improve decision-making consistency.

To learn more about the 26 key planning reforms to support the State's economic recovery, see Hawker Britton's summary [here](#).

Further Information

For more information, please contact your Hawker Britton Consultant [Simon Banks](#) on +61 419 648 587.