Have Your Say

Building Confidence through Better Planning for the Northern Territory

The Northern Territory Government is asking for community feedback to review, reframe and renew our planning system.

Government has heard concerns from the community that the planning system is not delivering the best-possible developments.

Territorians want a planning and development system that is open, transparent and accountable; that listens to Territorians and gives confidence that the right planning decisions are being made.

A Discussion Paper, Building Confidence through Better Planning for the NT, has been drafted to help start the conversation around potential reform of the planning system.

This consultation process is designed to look at the planning system as a whole – from legislation and regulations, to the Department’s web content and how planning decisions are communicated to the public. We want to understand how all Territorians interact with our planning system and where improvements can be made.

The Northern Territory Government is committed to providing the best planning system for the Territory. Planning done well is our legacy for the future and the government wants to hear your views and ideas on how we can improve planning for all Territorians.

The discussion paper is based on the following six principles:

- Providing Certainty
- Balancing Competing Interests
- Ensuring Transparency
- Reducing Complexity
- Meaningful Community Participation and Consultation
- Expanding Opportunities for Decisions to be Reviewed

How you can get involved.

Elton Consulting have been engaged as independent consultants to manage the Stage 1 Community consultation process.

Opportunities to provide your feedback

- visiting a pop-up stand at various locations across the NT
- Complete the online survey at https://haveyoursay.nt.gov.au
- Submit written feedback (details below).

Or you can contact Elton at any stage via telephone on 0437 181 932 for more information.

Detailed written submissions can be lodged until 8 December 2017 by email: planningreform@nt.gov.au; or by post to:

Review, Reframe, Renew
Lands Planning
Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
GPO Box 1680
DARWIN NT 0801
Why is this project being undertaken?
Government has heard concerns from the community that planning laws are not delivering the best-possible developments. Review, reframe, renew will look at the planning system as a whole – from legislation to consultation on access to planning information.
Stage 1 includes information gathering and analysis, including community engagement. We want to understand how all Territorians interact with our planning system and where improvements can be made.

Who is undertaking the Review?
This review has been initiated by the Government. Independent consultants, Elton Consulting, have been engaged to oversee the Stage 1 consultation process. Elton Consulting will provide an independent consultation report to Government which summarises feedback received from the pop-up consultations, online survey forms and written responses.

Where did the six principles for planning reform come from?
The six principles have been adopted from the 2012 NSW ICAC Report Anti-Corruption Safeguards and the NSW Planning System.

What is the timeline for the consultation and Review, Reframe, Renew?
Submissions to the Stage 1 consultation process will be open from 16 October 2017 through to 8 December 2017.

What will happen after Stage 1 is complete?
Issues raised during the initial consultation will inform specific proposals to reform the system. Depending on the outcomes of consultation, it is likely that further consultation will be undertaken on specific proposed reforms before implementing legislative or regulatory changes.

How can people get involved and provide feedback or submissions on the reform project?
Input is encouraged through the NT Government’s “Have Your Say” website (which will host an online survey), talk to us in person at one of the pop up consultations (which will be held in the major NT population centres during the months of October / November) or provide a written response for consideration.

What types of comments are you looking for from the public on the planning system?
We want suggestions from Territorians on any improvements that can be delivered to improve our planning system. Whether you are a concerned resident, a developer or simply have an interest in the way planning is done in the Territory, we want to hear your opinions. What can be improved? What works well? What can the system do to ensure it works better for the Territory?
The goal is to provide the best planning system for the Territory. Planning done well is our legacy for the future and we want to hear your ideas on how we can improve planning for all Territorians.

What are some examples of likely outcomes of the reform project?
While the discussion paper provides some examples of things to consider such as expanding third party party appeals, the outcomes of the consultation process are not being pre-determined. We want to hear from you about your ideas on how we can improve the planning system in the NT.