

Housing Supply Expert Panel Communique

Friday 30 September 2022 – Meeting #15

Meeting Purpose

The Housing Supply Expert Panel (the panel) met formally for the fifteenth time on 30 September 2022.

The focus of this meeting was to discuss the upcoming Housing Summit and the expanded role of the Housing Supply Expert Panel (HSEP) with the Deputy Premier's Chief of Staff Danielle Cohen.

Queensland Housing Summit

The panel discussed feedback from the Premier's Housing Roundtable of 16 September 2022 and what the key issues to be considered at the Queensland Housing Summit of 20 October 2022. Ideas and commentary raised through the discussion included:

- At the roundtable, attendees shared observations of the gravity of the private rental crisis and that a broad range of socio-economic brackets are now finding themselves under pressure and without housing options.
- While medium-longer term actions are critical, the rental crisis is unfolding now and so immediate and shorter-term responses to supplement housing supply must be a priority.
- Building better public understanding and capacity around housing issues and solutions remains a key factor in the housing space.
- Land supply remains an important piece of the equation but any future decisions contemplating changes to the existing SEQ statutory urban footprint should consider broader costs and benefits and ensure that infrastructure is planned and delivered.

The panel also discussed their role in the Housing Summit and the aftermath, with questions around how the various actions and initiatives raised will be prioritised, actioned and delivered.

Key Panel Advice:

1. Immediate solutions and a focus on the private rental market should be priorities.
2. Not messaging housing solutions properly to the community risks good ideas and responses being lost.
3. National and alternate views remain important to the debate.

Housing Supply Expert Panel Expanded Scope

On the 8 September 2022, the Honourable Steven Miles, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure, announced the expanded HSEP scope to take on housing challenges across Queensland. The panel commenced a discussion in relation to the expanded role, the new opportunities available and operational learnings to be considered.

The panel referenced the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning's (DSDILGP) forward program which commits to multiple 'fit for purpose' regional plan reviews over the next three years.

The panel raised that this forward program and the existing governance around regional plans might represent the best pathway for considering HSEP opportunities and involvement. Key considerations discussed were:

- How best to engage with regional planning networks to assist in informing housing solutions appropriate to the regions.
- What expanded skills and considerations might be required for hybrid meetings to increase the efficiency of the future HSEP engagement with the regions.

Key Panel Advice:

4. Expand the existing Terms of Reference to provide more opportunity for diverse housing issues throughout Queensland.
5. State wide HSEP meetings will require improved hybrid (online and in-person) meeting options.
6. The expanded state-wide role of the HSEP provides the opportunity for the panel to engage with existing regional planning networks and Region of Councils groups.

The panel will next meet on Monday 14 November 2021.

Comments from the Panel Chair, Julie Saunders:

I commend the Premier for committing to the Housing Summit and look forward to all stakeholders working together to solve the current pressures being experienced. The remit to expand the panel to a state-wide lens is also supported and considered a logical progression. I thank the Department for the opportunity to provide input on how this may work in operation.

