



Media release

Select Committee on Victoria Planning Provisions Amendments VC257, VC267 and VC274

Hearing scheduled for planning amendments inquiry

A Legislative Council Select Committee will hold its first public hearing as part of its inquiry into recent amendments to the Victorian Planning Provisions on Thursday April 17.

The Committee is inquiring into three amendments to planning requirements (VC257, VC274 and VC267) that affect development in major activity centres.

The hearing will begin at 10:45 am and be broadcast on the Committee's [website](#).

The Committee will hear from officials from the Department of Transport and Planning as well as planning experts Dr Stephen Rowley, Professor Michael Buxton, Jim Holdsworth and Professor Andrew Butt.

“We’re starting the public hearing process receiving evidence from the Victorian Government and key planning academics,” said Committee Chair David Ettershank.

“It’s important that we hear key contextual and technical evidence as we begin the inquiry, so we are informed ahead of learning the concerns of key stakeholder groups as our submissions and hearings process continues,” he said.

The full schedule of witnesses is available on the Committee's [website](#).

The Committee will also hold further sessions of public hearings on 29 and 30 April.

Amendment VC257 introduces the Housing Choice and Transport Zone and the Built Form Overlay into the Victorian Planning Provisions and is designed to support housing growth in areas with good public transport, infrastructure, and community facilities, particularly around activity centres.

Amendment VC267, aims to streamline the planning assessment process for residential developments, particularly for multi-residential dwellings up to three storeys.

Amendment VC274 introduces a new Precinct Zone to the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria. This zone intends to support housing and economic growth in priority areas, particularly Suburban Rail Loop precincts.

The Committee will consider and report whether the amendments give proper effect to the objectives of planning in Victoria, and the objectives of the planning framework, as set out in section 4 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

To read the terms of reference or to make a submission go to the Committee's [website](#).

The closing date for submissions is 24 April 2025.

The Committee will report by 13 May 2025

Issued: 16 April 2025