



Media release

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

Committee calls on government to explain planning amendments

The Victorian Government needs to rethink its recent planning amendments to ensure good planning outcomes, a report tabled in the Legislative Council today has said.

The Legislative Council Select Committee inquired into changes to the planning provisions.

It considered whether amendments VC257, VC267 and VC274 gave 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*.

The purpose of the amendments include increasing housing supply and the implementation of Victoria's Housing Statement. Witnesses appearing before the Committee agreed that we need more supply of different kinds of housing in well-located areas close to transport and jobs.

The Committee found the Victorian Government did not properly consult on the three amendments and the Committee is of the view that the Minister for Planning has inappropriately exempted herself from expected consultation.

The Committee found the Department of Transport and Planning and other agencies have not provided requested materials and background documents sought by the Committee during the inquiry.

The Committee made recommendations that reflect concerns raised by stakeholders about possible unintended consequences associated with the planning amendments. This includes the reduction of environmentally sustainable development standards in major local government areas, the excessive removal of existing trees, and the removal of consideration of flood risks from the planning process

The Committee also recommended a mechanism to monitor the performance of the Victoria Planning Provisions, consistent with previous recommendations from the Victorian Auditor-General.

The final report is available to read on the Committee's [website](#).

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