

30 January 2018

Our ref PE-WD

The Hon Leeanne Enoch MP  
Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef,  
Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts  
GPO Box 5078  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

By email: [environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

Dear Minister

**Vegetation management legislation – fundamental legislative principles**

The Queensland Law Society (QLS) is the peak professional body for the State's legal practitioners. We represent and promote nearly 13,000 legal professionals, increase community understanding of the law, help protect the rights of individuals and advise the community about the many benefits solicitors can provide.

QLS also assists the public by advising government on improvements to laws affecting Queenslanders and working to improve their access to the law.

Recent media coverage has indicated that the Government may be considering the reintroduction of amendments to the vegetation management legislation, similar to the Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016. QLS raised a number of concerns about the form of the proposed amendments following their introduction to the Parliament in 2016. QLS welcomes the recent reports which indicate the Government intends to remove the reverse onus of proof element from the legislation.

If the Government is proposing further amendments to the vegetation management framework, QLS would be pleased to provide comment and be consulted throughout the policy development and legislative process.

Please do not hesitate to contact our Acting Principal Policy Solicitor, Wendy Devine, on (07) 3842 5896 or by email to [w.devine@qls.com.au](mailto:w.devine@qls.com.au) in this regard.

Yours faithfully



Ken Taylor  
**President**