

11 November 2024

Our ref: MC-LP

The Hon Jarrod Bleijie MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development,
Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for
Industrial Relations
1 William Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Deputy Premier

Welcome to portfolio and legal profession issues

The Queensland Law Society (QLS) congratulates you on your appointment as Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations.

We take this opportunity to offer the assistance of the legal profession and in particular, the QLS legal policy committees in relation to any proposed legislative and policy reform. The QLS legal policy committees examine policy and legislative proposals and also consider practical issues affecting the profession and the broader community.

Industrial relations

Members of our Industrial Law Committee and Accident Compensation and Tort Law Committee have substantial expertise in their respective areas. QLS has enjoyed a positive relationship with the Office of Industrial Relations on matters concerning:

- workers' compensation;
- the Queensland industrial relations system;
- the Industrial Court of Queensland and the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission.

State Development, Infrastructure and Planning

Members of our Planning and Environmental Law Committee and the Property and Development Law Committee have a wide range of experience in property, planning and development matters across Queensland, including considering the practical consequences of legislative reforms for their clients and the community.

We recognise that one of the priorities of the government is to address the housing crisis in Queensland. QLS acknowledges the significant challenges for the Queensland community in

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accessing housing and the state government's role in developing the policy response to improving housing affordability and availability.

QLS supports the continued analysis of options to respond to the housing crisis, with a sound evidence base for legislative reform.

In the QLS 2024 Queensland State Election - Call to Parties 2024, QLS called for a commitment to establishing a legal stakeholder reference group of practitioners with expertise in tax law, property law, planning and environment law, elder law (including retirement villages and aged care), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and experts from the legal assistance sector.

Seeking input from a wide range of perspectives will identify the legal consequences of housing reform initiatives and deliver the greatest possible benefit of new proposals and we offer the assistance of our policy committees in this regard.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you at your convenience to discuss these complex issues further. Please do not hesitate to contact our Director of Advocacy and Legal Policy, [REDACTED] to arrange a convenient time

