

Media Release

Committee to inquire into new planning Bill

The Victorian Parliament's Environment and Planning Committee is seeking input into an inquiry on the Planning and Environment Amendment (Recognising Objectors) Bill 2015.

The Bill proposes to amend the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* so VCAT or the planning authority will consider the number of objectors and the effect of these proposed changes when determining if a proposal has a significant social effect.

Environment and Planning Committee Chair, Hon David Davis, said the inquiry was important because the planning system influences much of our lives.

"This inquiry is important as it gives the people of Victoria a direct voice into the development of the laws that govern the state," he said.

The Committee is looking at the Bill to gauge community attitudes to these amendments and examine possible impacts if made law. The Committee is required to report by 4 August 2015.

Details about this inquiry including forthcoming public hearings can be found on the Committee's website: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/epc

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