



Our Ref: 200605759/BL

12 JUL 2006

Ms J Parkhurst and Mr W Holmes
3 Battery Road
PARKERVILLE WA 6081

Dear Ms Parkhurst and Mr Holmes

Thank you for your letter dated 1 May regarding the vision for the eastern hills area.

In 1997, the Western Australian Planning Commission (the Commission) released the State Planning Strategy, which addresses strategic planning issues and principles to guide the development of Western Australia until 2029. The Strategy indicates that the population of Perth will grow from 1.2 million (in 1996) to almost 2 million in 2029 and a small amount of this growth should be accommodated in the North Eastern Hills.

The North Eastern Hills Settlement Pattern Plan was completed in 2002, in consultation with the City of Swan, Shire of Mundaring, the community and other key stakeholders. This plan was the first step in the planning process for the area and provided general guidance regarding the future growth in the region.

More recently, the Commission released *Network City*, which is a community planning strategy for Perth and Peel. Given the emerging issues regarding sustainability, this plan promotes principles of urban containment. The Commission will review the North Eastern Hills Settlement Pattern Plan in response to these issues.

In light of this imminent review, I have forwarded your letter on to the Commission and also to the Department for Planning and Infrastructure for consideration. The points that you have raised regarding infrastructure and development will be particularly relevant during the review of the North Eastern Hills Settlement Pattern Plan.

The options for the hills area that you outlined are relevant to the planning and development work undertaken by local government, and I would encourage you to also discuss your views with the City of Swan and the Shire of Mundaring.

Once again, thank you for drawing these matters to my attention.

Yours sincerely

Alan Carpenter MLA
PREMIER

cc. Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
Chairman, Western Australian Planning Commission