

From: Brett Dunstone

Via email: [REDACTED]

To the Expert Review Panel,

Via email: DTI.PlanningReview@sa.gov.au

Dear Panel Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to address you on my concerns re our new Planning and Design Code.

My key concerns are the limited protections for trees in South Australia, how developers often seem to prefer to cut down any large trees rather than work around them, and with little real penalty when they do so.

This has had a detrimental impact on my local area, resulting in many large significant trees being cut down (often illegally) and with little penalty. Our local area is well treed but if this continues it may not be for long.

Our laws around protecting trees are poor and there's little wonder that our tree coverage is the worst in the country. Therefore, I support all 10 recommendations from the Conservation Council SA for reform of the laws around tree protection in South Australia. See attached for details.

There is plenty of scientific evidence to show that given the climate crisis we are currently facing, the evidence shows that tree canopy is one of the best ways to mitigate against urban heat island effect. We need to move swiftly to ensure that we leave the best possible outcomes for our children and grandchildren.

I look forward to the panel making recommendations that match interstate best practice. Allowing councils greater say over which trees are protected and in which circumstances would do this and would also meet community expectations for their local area.

Your sincerely,

Brett Dunstone