



Our ref: MC23/5012

27 September 2023

Department of
**State Development, Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning**

Ms Phae Barrett
Tiny Homes Expo Organiser
Tiny Homes Expo
phae@tinyhomesexpo.com.au

Dear Ms Barrett

I refer to your email of 22 August 2023 to the Honourable Meaghan Scanlon MP, Minister for Housing regarding local governments and their regulation of tiny homes. As the matters you raised fall within the portfolio responsibilities of the Honourable Steven Miles MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure your email was referred to the Deputy Premier for consideration. The Deputy Premier has asked me to respond on his behalf on this occasion.

I understand that the varied regulatory approaches of local governments to Queenslanders wishing to live in tiny houses can be frustrating and appreciate your views on the changes necessary to enable greater uptake of tiny houses.

The Queensland Government supports the delivery of housing choice that meets the needs of Queensland communities. The popularity of tiny homes and their potential contribution to the overall solution to address housing challenges is apparent. As you have mentioned, many councils enable the use of tiny homes on a temporary basis through local laws, but this does not suit permanent occupation. **If a tiny home on wheels transitions to a permanent residential use, it becomes a structure and is then subject to relevant planning, building, plumbing and drainage approvals – all of which are managed by local governments.**

With regard to your comments about using tiny homes as secondary dwellings, I am pleased to advise that in late 2022, the Queensland Government made amendments to the Planning Regulation 2017, removing restrictions on who can live in a secondary dwelling such as a granny flat, enabling homeowners to rent them out to anyone outside their immediate family members. Tiny and small homes are considered suitable housing forms to be used as a secondary dwelling.

The Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (the department) is committed to ongoing and continual improvements to actively address critical housing issues. This includes reviewing the planning framework's approach to regulating residential development, exploring options to deliver more social and affordable housing and ensuring there are diverse housing options available, such as tiny houses. I can advise that the department is reviewing your suggestions as part of its ongoing and urgent work to address the housing crisis.

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If you require any further information, please contact Ms Kate Wall, Director, Planning Group, in the department, by telephone on 0459 805 809 or by email at kate.wall@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au, who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Aston', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christopher Aston
Acting Deputy Director-General
Planning Group