

**Government Response to the  
State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development  
Committee**

**Report No. 45**

**Implementation of The Spit Master Plan Bill 2019**

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**Recommendation 1**

*The Committee recommends the Implementation of The Spit Master Plan Bill 2019 be passed.*

The government thanks the State Development, Natural Resources and Agricultural Industry Development Committee (the committee) for its consideration of the Implementation of The Spit Master Plan Bill 2019 (the Bill) and notes the committee's recommendation that the Bill be passed.

**Recommendation 2**

*The Committee recommends that clause 25 of the Implementation of The Spit Master Plan Bill 2019 be amended to include the following in proposed section 45(2)(aa), 'design and aesthetics of public open spaces, parks and natural environments, and built forms'.*

The government supports this recommendation.

To improve The Spit as a renowned destination on the Gold Coast, the quality of public space design and built forms is of fundamental importance. The government is progressing works on various fronts to ensure the design elements of public works on The Spit are consistent and of high quality.

The Gold Coast Waterways Authority (the Authority) is leading the delivery of capital works to improve the public realm on The Spit. The recommended amendment will provide for a person with skills in design and aesthetics of public open spaces, parks and natural environments, and built forms to be nominated to the Authority's Board.

The government intends to move this amendment during consideration in detail when debate of the Bill resumes.

**Recommendation 3**

*The Committee recommends that, as a matter of priority, the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy survey and register the land mass of Curlew Island as an environmental reserve, to enable the ongoing protection and management of Curlew Island.*

The government supports this recommendation.

The registration of Curlew Island as an environmental reserve to enable ongoing protection and management of the island is already being progressed by the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME). The Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning is coordinating discussions between DNRME, the Authority, the Department of Environment and Science and the City of Gold Coast to identify the appropriate entity as trustee of the new reserve. The matter falls outside the scope of the Bill and therefore is being addressed separate to the Bill.

#### Recommendation 4

*The Committee recommends that all stakeholders collaborate to expeditiously resolve the issues regarding helicopter operations within The Spit Master Plan area.*

The government supports this recommendation in principle.

Although this matter was raised through submissions on the Bill, it is not a matter that can be addressed directly through the Bill or by the exercise of regulatory functions by the Queensland Government.

Helicopter operations on The Spit involve multiple stakeholders and jurisdictions. Importantly, the City of Gold Coast is the authority responsible for approving helipad locations on The Spit and Airservices Australia is the government body responsible for responding to complaints about aircraft noise and flight path.

The government will liaise with those authorities to draw their attention to the Committee's recommendation.

<b>Queensland Legislative Assembly</b>	
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	18 FEB 2020
MP:	HON C R DICK
Clerk's Signature:	<i>M. Ries</i>
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