

Bulky goods division review

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COMPANIES which sell bulky goods such as furniture and whitegoods have called on the State Government to establish planning guidelines for the industry.

Speaking at the Bulky Goods Retailers' Association quarterly forum in Adelaide last week, MasterPlan director Greg Vincent outlined the argument for greater planning clarity for the SA bulky goods sector.

He said the different guidelines adopted by South Australian councils had created ambiguity in the sector.

"One of the biggest things we continue to face is lack of consistency," he said.

Mr Vincent said action on new planning guidelines was "long overdue" and advocated definitions which were broader and more flexible than now in place.

Minister for Urban Development and Planning Paul Holloway also spoke at the forum and said the delay in planning legislation had been unfortunate.

He said a review process was under way and he hoped to have the issue addressed in 2009.

"Clearly it now has to go through certain processes but I am keen to resolve this as quickly as possible - within a matter of months if possible," he said.

Mr Holloway did not provide details of any proposed amendments.

The BGRA forum was hosted by Axiom Properties Limited, the developer of the Gepps Cross bulky goods precinct. The centre, which will be the biggest bulky goods precinct in the country, is 80 per cent pre-committed. The complex is due to open in the middle of the year.