



Media release

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Council puts a stop to rezoning of agricultural land

Albany City Council will halt the rezoning of agricultural land amid concerns about the potential loss of productive land in favour of semi-rural 'lifestyle' properties.

At the July 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council resolved to place a moratorium on the rezoning of agricultural land immediately until the review of the Albany Local Planning Strategy is complete.

Albany Mayor Dennis Wellington said concerns had been raised about the loss of productive agricultural land to make way for semi-rural 'lifestyle' lots.

"There are concerns about potential environmental impacts of further development of rural land, including risk of bushfire, the loss of vegetation and visual amenity, as well as the introduction of weeds and feral animals," he said.

"There are also concerns about the conflicts between 'lifestyle' land uses and primary industry uses such as quarries."

Council will continue to consider minor planning scheme amendments over, or in the vicinity of, agricultural land where it is considered 'infill development' or allows for ongoing productive use of the land.

The Albany Local Planning Strategy is expected to be complete late 2016.

END