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Government decision making and bureaucracy – a positive or negative influence on our lives, our cities and our economy

- Governance in Australia: Reality 'yes minister' is alive and well at every level of government in Australia. Good governance demands 1. Elected politicians making decisions. 2. Bureaucrats providing independent advice. 3. Engagement of business and community. Reality is across Australia that is not happening. There is only one decision making and that is bureaucrats. Politicians are not game to make a decision. Governance in Australia is finished until someone starts to stand up to some bureaucrats and gets them to take action. Political process has been gutted – stop gutting the process. Regional plan – elect people to make decisions. They 'tinker' with the regional plan. There will be no land – affordability will go up. Reality is that the system is flawed. The new regional plan is nonsense. It cannot and will not cater for the population growth. QLD is not the growth start any more – the population place is Melbourne.
- Gold Coast: Won't vote for a political party. Demonstrated at the last election – not 1 liberal party member. Get real of people with substance with a sense of vision and purpose to stand. Local Government Act of either side want a strong mayor because it is a counter balance to the Queensland Premier. Get the local government act changed so a major can systemically have some power and clout. Can't change by bringing in political parties, but can change by looking at the processes and systems to get the change.
- Planners: Planning in Australia is systemically flawed. Sanctuary based planning because it will remove conflict and tension. One reason why sanctuary planning won't occur because of black letter law planning. That is what is required to simplify the planning process to reduce delays. If got rid of the roadblocks in many cases (often imposed by planners) would not need stimulus. Planning processes – over planned and over managed.