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MEDIA RELEASE

MINISTERIAL AMENDMENT TO BOOST INVESTMENT IN DONCASTER HILL

The Minister for Planning, The Honourable Justin Madden, has approved Amendment C73 to the Manningham Planning Scheme, which will assist Manningham Council to attract more investment to Doncaster Hill.

Amendment C73 replaces Comprehensive Development Zone Interim controls for Doncaster Hill, which were due to expire on 31 December 2007. The Amendment also makes minor changes to the zoning provisions, from a minimum of three mixed uses on a site to two.

The Minister commended Council for its excellent work in preparing and implementing the Doncaster Hill Strategy.

“This minor change to the zone provisions is a small, yet significant step in fine-tuning the existing planning scheme controls to attract more investment to Doncaster Hill”, said Minister Madden.

Manningham Mayor, Cr Geoff Gough welcomed the Minister’s approval of Amendment C73 and believes the new provisions will further boost development on Doncaster Hill.

“Earlier this year Council made a request to the Minister for Planning for an extension of the Comprehensive Development Zone for another two years, and to request a change to the number of uses required in a building, to make the planning provisions more flexible.

“Investors will be attracted to Doncaster Hill, not only because its proximity to the City and availability of land, but because future developments will be able to have just two mixed uses, ie. retail and residential, on one site”, said the Mayor.

On 22 June 2007 the Minister for Planning appointed the Priority Development Panel (PDP) to conduct a performance review of the Doncaster Hill Strategy, including a review of the interim planning controls. There have been a number of workshops held since July to review the various aspects of the Doncaster Hill Strategy, including the provisions and performance of the Comprehensive Development Zone and related statutory provisions.

The PDP Working Group has made preliminary findings in relation to the Comprehensive Development Zone and have forwarded a report to the Minister for Planning for consideration early in the New Year.

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Amendment C73 was officially gazetted on 20 December.

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