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Title:

Statement: Land Development Unit

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STATEMENT BY THE PREMIER, DON DUNSTAN.LAND DEVELOPMENT UNIT.

13.6.73

The State Government has formed a Land Development Unit to enable its policies on land price control to be administered in a co-ordinated way, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, said today.

He said that the Unit is under the control of the Minister of Lands, Mr. Kneebone.

The Unit is headed by Mr. M.J. Toohy, a senior officer seconded from the E&W.S. Department.

Its offices will be in Flinders House.

Mr. Dunstan said that the Unit is headed by a Steering Committee which advises on land purchase and development activities.

Mr. M.D. Downer, State Manager of R.D.C. is the Chairman of the Committee, and its other members are a representative of the Department of Lands, Mr. D. Claessen of the Premier's Department, Mr. D.A. Speechley of the State Planning Authority, and Mr. H. Smith of the South Australian Housing Trust.

Mr. Dunstan said that the Unit is responsible to the Director of Lands for direct dealings with private companies responsible for the subdivision of Government Land.

It will work with Government departments and authorities in the co-ordination of services to subdivisions, and with the Housing Trust in the preparation of subdivisional plans.

The Steering Committee will be associated with the State Planning Authority in the negotiation and purchase of available land parcels.

It will oversee the co-ordination of services such as roads, sewerage, gas and electricity to new subdivisions, and advise the Land Development Unit on the subdivisional methods to be adopted in purchased land parcels.

The Premier said that when the State-Federal Land Commission had been established, it was envisaged that the Unit would be disbanded or used to provide the nucleus of the staff for the new Commission.

He said that while the Unit was operating, it would award subdivisional contracts by taking into consideration:-

1. The time to be taken to place fully-serviced allotments on the market.
2. How services are to be financed.
3. The scale of prices of the allotments.

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NOTE:

On 16th May, the Premier announced in a released statement that the S.A. Government would shortly establish a Land Commission to keep down the price of building blocks in the Adelaide metropolitan area.

He said then that it would do this by buying up broad acres and releasing them at fair prices based on those prevailing at the time the Government's intentions were first announced, on February 19.

No vacant allotments below half an acre in size, with water services, purchased as from today can be resold at a price in excess of the purchase price, plus an additional annual 7% of that price, plus rates and taxes. (From release May 16.)