

# media statement



4 January 2012

## Duplex management simplified by new regulation

Duplex owners have received a new year's gift of new rules that will simplify the day-to-day management of their properties.

The regulation, which will commence on 28 February 2012, allows decisions regarding the management of a duplex to be made by agreement between the owners of the two lots in the duplex, instead of having to go through a formal body corporate meeting and voting process.

Fair Trading Executive Director Brian Bauer said the changes could benefit more than 13,000 Queenslanders who own lots in residential two-lot schemes, commonly known as duplexes.

"In the past there was no differentiation between duplex schemes and larger multi-unit complexes.

"Owners of duplex properties needed to prepare annual budgets, maintain administration and sinking funds, and make decisions using the same formal body corporate meeting and voting process as is required of their larger cousins," Mr Bauer said.

"This seems crazy when you're talking about two neighbours managing and making a decision about their adjoining properties.

"The introduction of this regulation means duplex owners will be provided with a simpler way to manage their properties.

"They will be able to make decisions by written agreement and easily enforce by-laws rather than having to use the standard body corporate practices better suited to larger schemes.

"For the first time they'll have the freedom to manage their properties in the way that best suits them."

Mr Bauer said duplex owners would still have access to the Office of the Commissioner of Body Corporate and Community Management's dispute resolution service.

For more information on the new regulation visit [www.justice.qld.gov.au](http://www.justice.qld.gov.au) or call 1800 060 119.

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