1. Electronic bulk data updates from QVAS including personal information (names and service addresses) are currently provided by the Department of Natural Resources and Water to seven data brokers who provide products for use by the real estate and property related industries.
2. The submission proposes that QVAS only provide personal details to data broker licensees who have signed up to a self funded, self regulated, industry Code of Conduct. The code would include detailed privacy provisions, enforcement powers and sanctions and the ability for members of the public to request that their details be withheld on a central industry register.
3. An independent Code Oversight Committee, comprising of three people – an independent chair, an industry representative and a representative from a consumer body, would be established and procedures for dispute resolution would be developed.
4. The government would not have a day-to-day role in complaints management but would retain a high level role through requiring data broker licensees and their customers to be signatories to the industry Code of Conduct in licence agreements and reviewing the annual report of the Code Oversight Committee.
5. Cabinet endorsed the establishment of an industry-funded and administered Code of Conduct including an independent Code Oversight Committee to receive and investigate complaints and that personal details (vendor and purchaser name and service address) in electronic bulk supply of QVAS data will only be provided to data broker licensees who have signed up to the Code.
6. Cabinet noted that if a suitable Code of Conduct was not developed by industry (or if after review of the Code Oversight Committee’s annual reports it was clear that the whole industry was not appropriately controlling access and use of personal information), access to personal details in bulk supply of QVAS data would be discontinued.
7. *Attachments*
* Nil