

Community Participation Plan

1 September 2026

dphi.nsw.gov.au





Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

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Community Participation Plan
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Contents

Acknowledgement of Country	ii
Secretary's foreword	3
1 A Statewide Community Participation Plan	4
What is the Community Participation Plan?	4
Consistency and proportionality in community participation	4
Engagement strategies	4
Public participation – getting involved	5
Community participation objectives	6
Notification and Exhibition	7
Submissions	8
Staying up to date	8
2 Participating in planning functions	9
Planning functions	9
State planning framework – setting the rules and regulations	10
Strategic planning – how my region and community will change over time	12
Development assessment – development that may impact where I live and work	16
Other notice requirements	21
Public exhibition timeframes	22
Development types excluded from public exhibition	24
Key points to note about public exhibition	25
Glossary	26
Where can I find out more?	28



Secretary's foreword

A message from Kiersten Fishburn



We know that planning works best when it reflects what communities need and value. Local knowledge plays a vital role in shaping strategic plans and the assessment of development proposals.

The *Planning System Reforms Act 2025* lays the foundation for a modern planning system that is faster, fairer and focused on outcomes. One of its key commitments is creating a single statewide Community Participation Plan for all councils and planning authorities.

This plan brings consistency to consultation timeframes across NSW. It ensures communities have a strong voice in the planning system and sets clear expectations that engagement should match the scale and impact of a proposal or strategic plan.

We also understand that the planning system can seem complicated or daunting. That's why this plan explains the different ways you and your community can get involved at both the local and state level. It also encourages planning authorities to consult widely so decisions reflect your values, priorities and concerns.

Planning should be a partnership with people who know their communities best. That is why planning authorities can continue to develop their own engagement strategies that outline how councils and other planning authorities will work with their communities and ensure local context guides their approach.

Good participation must be accessible to everyone. This approach emphasises the importance of engaging respectfully with Aboriginal communities and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Everyone should be able to navigate a planning system that works for them.

This Community Participation Plan applies to planning authorities and functions subject to community participation requirements under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. This includes the planning functions of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure and its Secretary, as well as all councils and relevant planning authorities across NSW.

I hope you find this plan a practical guide to participate in planning in NSW.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a series of loops and a final dot.

Kiersten Fishburn
Secretary, Department of Planning,
Housing and Infrastructure

A Statewide Community Participation Plan

1

Commencement: This document commences on 1 September 2026.

What is the Community Participation Plan?

The Community Participation Plan (CPP) sets out how and when planning authorities will engage the community and stakeholders in decision-making processes related to planning functions.

This plan is applicable to all planning authorities including the Department of Planning Housing and Infrastructure (the Department), local councils and other State Government Departments and agencies. It is designed to clearly outline how and when the community can participate in planning decisions and processes, and when planning authorities exercise their relevant planning functions.

The plan has been prepared by the Planning Secretary to set out the mandatory community participation requirements in accordance with Division 2.6 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

Consistency and proportionality in community participation

Consistency and proportionality are key to the broader success of community participation. The Community Participation Plan standardises public exhibition timeframes across all planning functions, providing a consistent approach, no matter where you are in NSW.

Planning functions are subject to different levels of community participation that reflect the scale, complexity and potential impacts of the proposal or development. This ensures that exhibition requirements are proportionate to the scale and impact of the proposal.

This includes extended exhibition periods for draft strategic plans, as they establish the long-term vision and

identify future needs for housing, jobs, infrastructure and connected communities. Early community engagement at this stage is critical, as it helps inform decisions about land use and the location of future development.

In contrast, some low-impact local development applications may not require public exhibition, reflecting their limited scale and potential impacts. This helps focus community participation on matters that are most likely to affect the community.

While some development types may not be publicly exhibited, they are still assessed on their merits. The consent authority must consider all relevant planning matters as part of the overall assessment process including issues such as privacy, overshadowing and heritage significance.

Engagement strategies

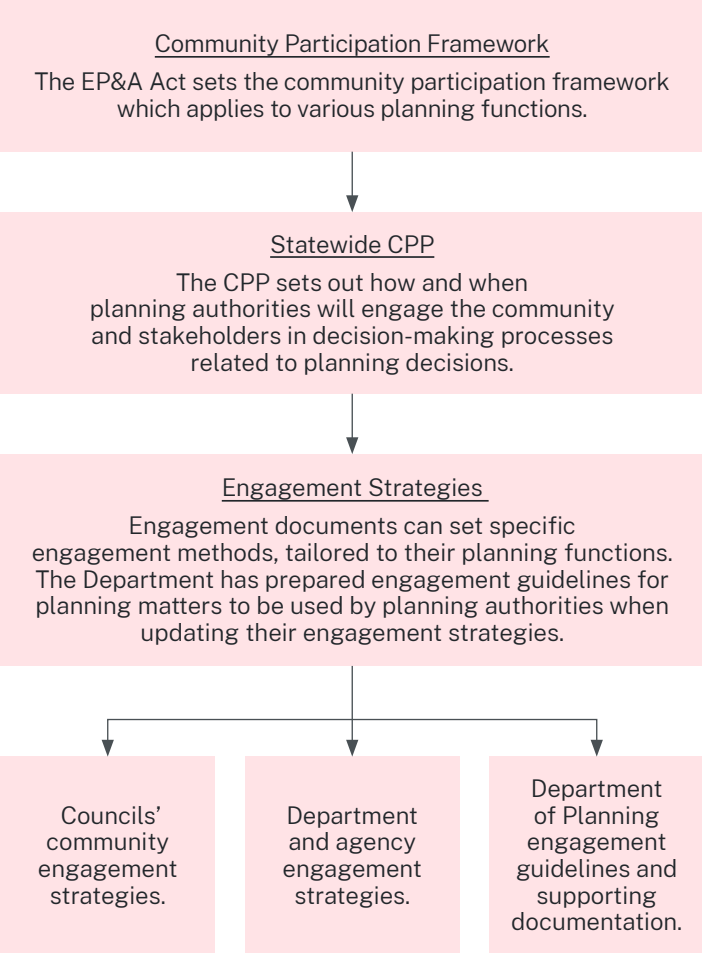
Councils and other planning authorities including the Independent Planning Commission can continue to specify engagement methods in their relevant engagement strategy within the parameters set by this plan. An engagement strategy must not specify timeframes for public exhibition of planning functions. These strategies outline the specific methods and tools that a planning authority will use to engage with communities and stakeholders. Every community is different, and engagement approaches should reflect the characteristics, needs and preferences of the communities they are intended to reach.

Councils and planning authorities are best placed to understand their communities and determine how to effectively engage with groups that may be harder to reach, including young people, people with disability, elderly, socio-economically disadvantaged, those living in rural areas, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders communities and culturally and linguistically diverse people.



Figure 1 shows the hierarchy of community participation legislation and related documents and their relationship to a planning authorities engagement strategy.

Figure 1: Community participation framework in NSW



Public participation – getting involved

Community participation is an essential part of the planning process and a fundamental part of the EP&A Act.

Anyone affected by, or interested in, NSW's planning system including individuals, groups, organisations and government bodies can provide feedback and get involved on planning matters.

Getting involved in the planning process by providing feedback on a proposed development, plan or policy is an important way for the community to have a meaningful say in how their local area changes over time.

Participation plays an important role in improving the design of projects, informing decision-making and building confidence in the planning system so that communities across NSW feel heard and reflected in the spaces that they live and work in.

Effective participation is achieved by:

- Facilitating discussion between stakeholders so they can hear each other's concerns and ideas
- Creating opportunities for upfront discussions that can reduce potential disputes
- Assisting decision makers identify community concerns
- Utilising local knowledge and expertise
- Empowering local communities in the planning process.

Community participation objectives

The principles in section 2.23(2) of the EP&A Act have been considered when developing this CPP, including the community participation objectives. These objectives are included below and are used when engaging with the community and stakeholders on planning matters.



Open and inclusive

Planning authorities will keep the community informed and promote equitable participation. This includes incorporating culturally appropriate practices where relevant and conducting engagement in a safe environment so that all community members can join in.



Easy to access

Planning authorities will advise the community early about how and when they can participate. Information and engagement opportunities will reflect how each community accesses information, using the formats, channels, times and locations that are most likely to reach the people affected.



Relevant

Planning authorities will clearly identify what aspects of the project can be discussed and ensure as many community members as possible can participate. Engagement activities will acknowledge previous community input and be tailored to the context — such as location, application type, assessment stage, and earlier engagement — as well as the scale, nature, and impacts of the proposal.



Timely

Planning authorities will start community participation as early as possible and continue it for an appropriate period, providing regular project updates so people stay informed. The community will be given reasonable time to provide a submission, and authorities will maintain ongoing engagement through local networks.



Proportionate

Planning authorities will concentrate engagement effort on the stages of planning and decision making where community input can have the greatest influence. Where key directions have already been established, engagement will be clear about what has been decided and focus on the matters that remain open to change.



Meaningful

Planning authorities will clearly explain how community submission influence decisions and be upfront about what aspects of a plan the community can shape. Decision makers will engage directly, provide relevant responses, and genuinely consider all input.

Notification and Exhibition

Minimum public exhibition periods

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* sets out minimum community participation requirements for the public exhibition of certain planning matters.

During a public exhibition period all relevant documentation is made publicly available, and the community is invited to make a submission outlining their views on the draft policy, plan or proposal.

When and how you may be notified

If you are directly affected by a proposal, you may receive a notification during public exhibition that provides information on how to view a proposal and how to lodge a submission. Consent authorities may undertake a site visit of the subject site or neighbouring properties to assess impacts as part of their assessment.

Planning authorities will specify how they engage the community on certain types of development in their community engagement strategies. Engagement methods include, but are not limited to the following:

Table 1: Examples of engagement methods for different levels of engagement

Level of engagement	Objective	Method
Make information available	Planning authorities will keep the community informed and promote equitable participation	• a letter • an email • an on-site notice
Invite broader community input	Planning authorities will advise the community early about how and when they can participate	• public exhibition –invite written submissions • documents made available on websites • media releases • mailing lists, Electronic Direct Mail (EDM) • community newsletters and emails • social media posts • updates to subscribers via the NSW Planning Portal
Actively gather community input	Planning authorities will clearly identify what aspects of the project can be discussed and ensure as many community members as possible can participate	• drop in sessions • public meetings • reference groups • focus groups
Explore and refine the proposal with affected communities	Planning authorities will clearly explain how community submissions influence decisions and be upfront about what aspects of a plan the community can shape	• workshops • surveys • website content or, social media notification

Submissions

A consent authority will consider all submissions received during a public exhibition period. In some cases, the number of submissions on a development application determines who the final consent authority is.

Anyone can make a submission. The contents of a submission may be a general response to the project, and not technically detailed. You do not need to be a specialist to have your say.

Late submissions may be considered at the discretion of the consent authority. Submissions must be made in writing and submitted online via the relevant planning authority's website. For the NSW Independent Planning Commission, the panel members will only accept a late submission in exceptional circumstances. It is recommended you contact the relevant consent authority to confirm.

For local development applications, it may be possible to make submissions via the NSW Planning Portal or through other means, such as by post or electronic mail – it is recommended you engage with your council to confirm. For any other consent authorities, it is recommended to contact the consent authority to confirm how submissions can be made.

Where a development is not required to be exhibited, a consent authority is not required to consider submissions as part of its assessment.

Material received outside of a public exhibition period

Feedback can be provided to the consent authority at any stage of an application. This includes planning functions that do not require public exhibition. Where a development application is not publicly exhibited, feedback can still be provided – however it is not considered a formal submission.

Staying up to date

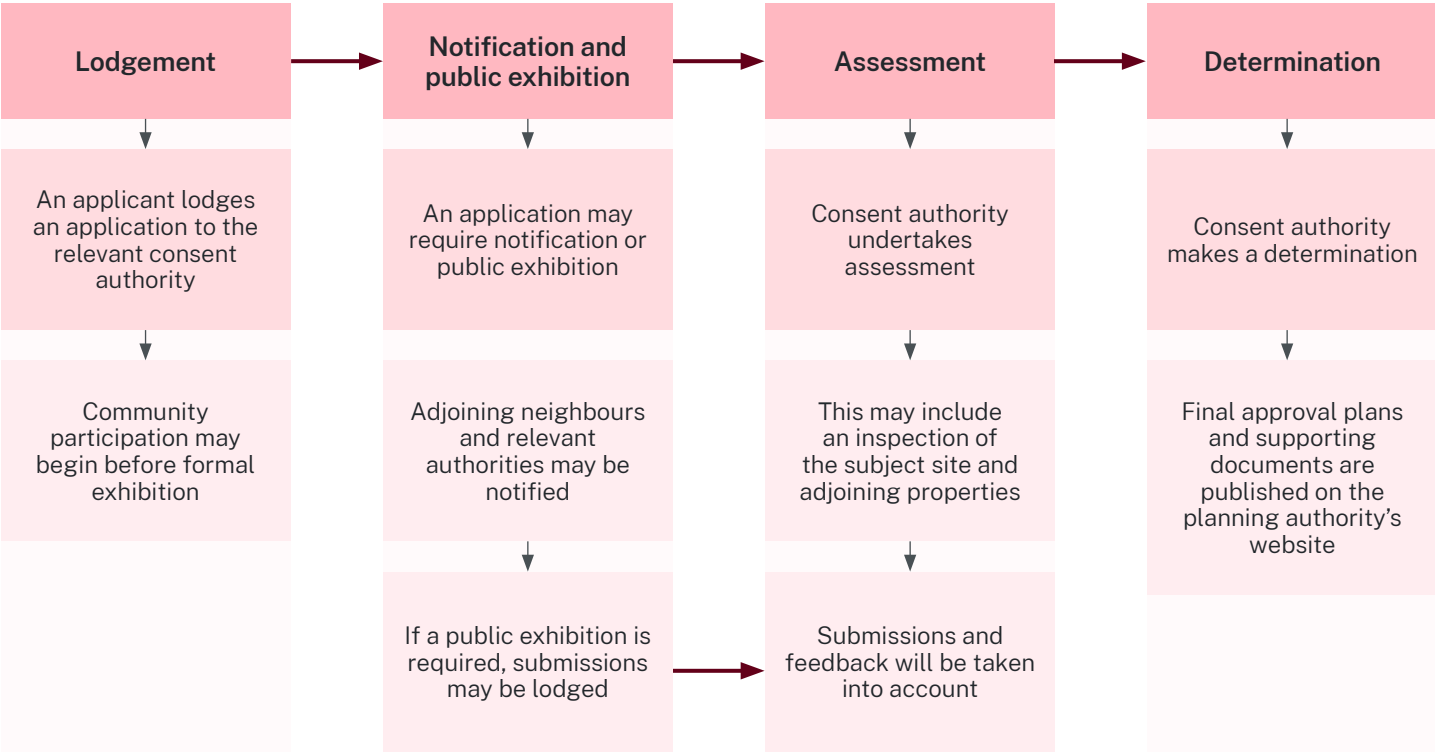
There are many ways to stay updated about development in your local area. You can sign up for alerts on specific projects such as planning proposals, new major projects and State significant development in your local government area.

Throughout this document you will find useful links to trackers and ways to subscribe to projects.

Process for development applications

Figure 2 shows the consultation process of a development application from lodgement to determination and outlines the key stages where participation occurs.

Figure 2: Summary of consultation during development assessment



Participating in planning functions

2

Planning functions

The CPP details exhibition timeframes for the following planning functions:

State Planning Framework – setting the rules and regulations

- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021
- State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs)

Strategic Planning – how my region and community will change overtime

- community participation plan (CPP)
- planning proposals for local environmental plans subject to a gateway determination
- development controls plan (DCPs)
- contribution plans
- regional or district plans
- local strategic planning statements (LSPS)
- activation precinct masterplans and delivery plans (including infrastructure delivery plans)
- structure plans, precinct plans and masterplans for urban renewal areas

Development Assessment – development that may impact where you live and work

- State significant projects
- regionally significant development
- local development
- designated development
- nominated integrated development or threatened species development
- environmental impact statement obtained under Division 5.1
- council-related development applications
- application for modification of development consent
- review of a determination or decision



State planning framework

Setting the rules and regulations

Acts, regulations and policies set the structure for the NSW planning system, providing a regulatory framework for planning decisions, including the assessment of development applications, making planning instruments and strategic planning.

You may be invited to lodge a submission on the following:



EP&A Act

The EP&A Act sets the structure for the NSW planning system. It is the principal legislation regulating land use in NSW and allows plans to be made to guide the process of development and regulate competing land uses.

EP&A Reg

The EP&A Regulation sets out how the procedural matters and requirements of the EP&A Act are carried out, including the provisions planning authorities must follow when assessing development applications.



SEPPs

Environmental planning policies are for State significant or statewide planning matters. They inform how land can be developed, managed and conserved in NSW.

Who is involved:



Department

The Department develops changes as needed and leads engagement



Councils

Councils provide expertise and feedback when an Explanation of Intended Effects is exhibited



Community

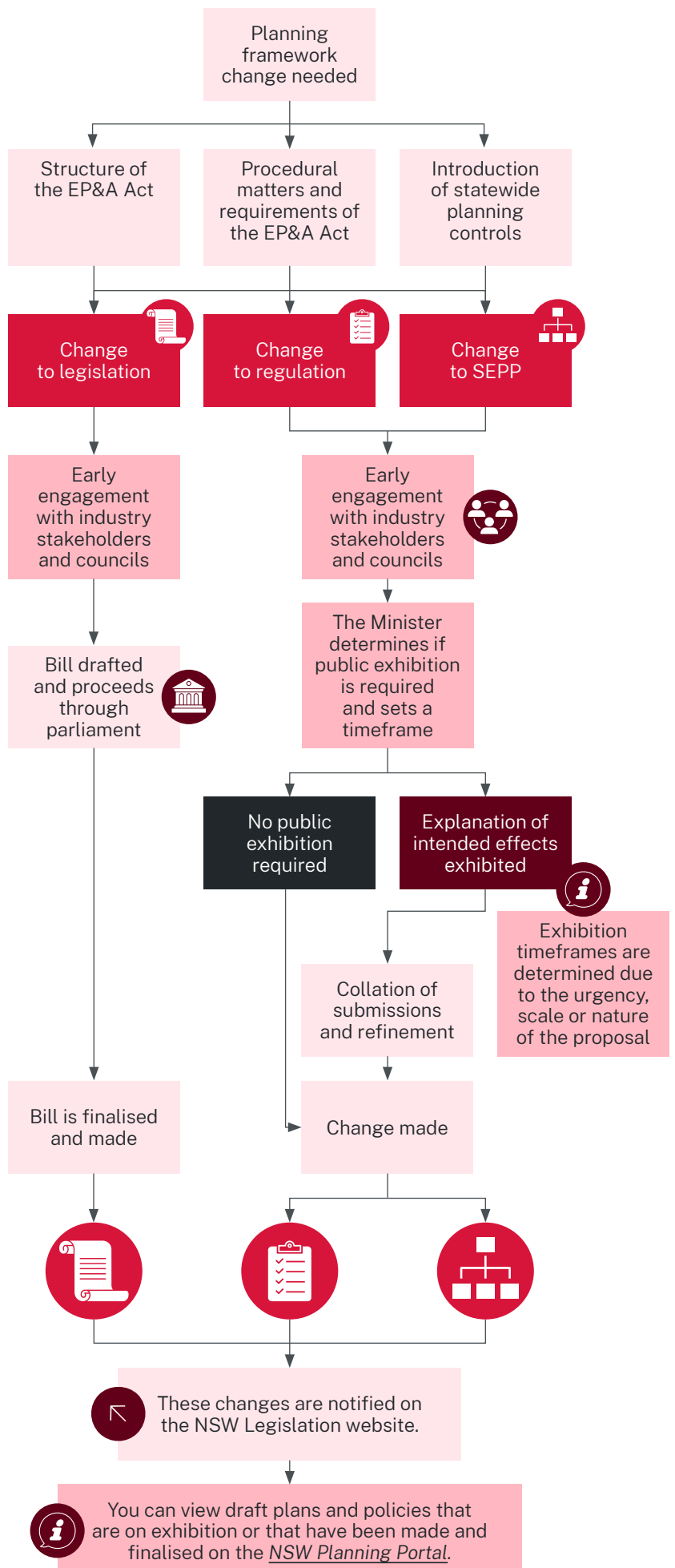
Provide feedback when an Explanation of Intended Effects is exhibited



Industry

Peak bodies and advocacy associations provide expertise

Figure 3: Exhibition process – State planning



Case study

Providing feedback on a housing policy change

Yao saw a government announcement on his news feed that it would soon be easier to build more housing types in places with access to good infrastructure.

The article linked to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure's website, where he found information on the proposed policy, which included changes to planning controls in the State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021 (Housing SEPP).

Supportive of the changes, Yao was pleased he could provide feedback, as he lived further from services and jobs.

The Department's Explanation of Intended Effects (EIE) document outlined the proposed changes to the Housing SEPP, and where they would apply across NSW.

Although confused by technical planning language, he found infographics, videos and guides written in plain English on the website that helped him understand the proposal.

Yao submitted feedback through a guided form and subscribed to updates.

When the policy was finalised, he read the 'What we heard' document on the website and saw how feedback had informed changes.



Strategic planning

How my region and community will change over time

Strategic planning helps guide how places grow, change and are protected. It is the foundation for how governments influence the shape of communities, determine where homes are built, where jobs are located, and how services and infrastructure connect across the State and how the environment is conserved.

Early engagement builds community confidence in the planning system, provides greater transparency about how decisions are made and ensures that potential concerns and priorities are explored proactively.

This aligns with the object of proportionality by encouraging and strengthening early, meaningful community consultation at the strategic planning stage. This ensures the focus of engagement is targeted on identifying issues and priorities that can be addressed prior to development assessment.



You may be invited to lodge a submission on the following:



Draft regional and district strategic plans
Exhibited for a minimum of 60 days

Plans developed to support future community needs in regions and districts across NSW. These include plans for homes, jobs, community infrastructure and a healthy environment.

Updated by NSW government every 5 years

Draft local strategic planning statements (LSPS)
Exhibited for a minimum of 60 days

Plans that detail the vision for land-use in a local area, special character values, and how change will be managed into the future.

Developed by councils and updated every 7 years.



Masterplans for urban renewal areas
Exhibited for a minimum of 42 days

Plans that set a future direction for areas by creating new communities that build on local character and provide updated housing, work, recreation and business opportunities.

A planning authority develops a masterplan for a precinct, in response to strategic direction.

Planning proposals to amend or create a new local environmental plan (LEP)
Exhibited for a minimum of 28 days unless specified in the gateway determination

Planning proposals create and amend LEPs which guide planning decisions for local government areas. They do this through zoning and development controls, which sets how land can be used.

A planning authority or proponent can instigate changes to an LEP.



Draft development control plans (DCP)
Exhibited for a minimum of 28 days

Plans that provide detailed planning and design guidelines to support the planning controls in a LEP.

A council may draft or require a DCP to be prepared.

Draft contributions plans
Exhibited for a minimum of 28 days

These plans enable consent authorities to levy contributions for public amenities and services required to support development.



Did you know: You can view your councils contribution plan on the [NSW Planning Portal](#).



A council prepares a draft contributions plan as needed.



Draft community participation plan (CPP)
Exhibited for a minimum of 28 days

The CPP outlines how and when community participation is undertaken when relevant planning authorities exercise their planning functions.



Did you know: You can view plans on exhibition and under assessment on the [NSW Planning Portal](#).

Established by the State government, the Planning Secretary prepares a draft CPP.

Who is involved:



Department

The Department prepares regional strategic plans, policies and masterplans, and has a role in assessing planning proposals



Councils

Councils prepare strategic plans, contribution plans, masterplans and development control plans. Council also prepare and assess planning proposals



Community

The community provides the local perspective on strategic planning during public exhibition



Industry

Industry experts provide advice and feedback on proposals

Case study

Lodging a submission on the Sydney Region Plan

Myriam sees a post pop up on her social media account about a new plan called the Sydney Region Plan.

The post says that the Government is looking for the community to have their say on how Sydney will grow and transform over the next 20 years.

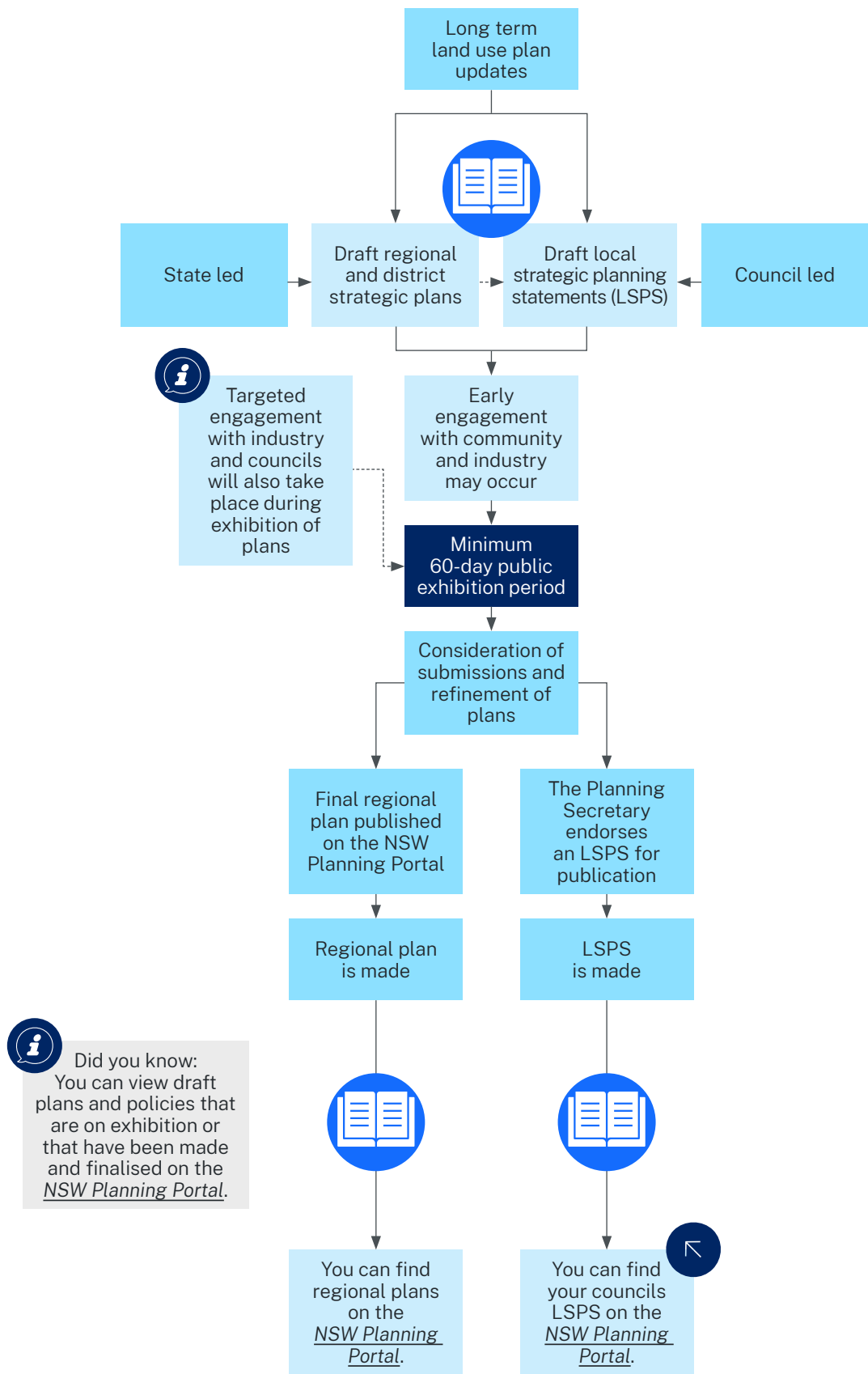
The post has a link to the NSW Planning Portal which has a copy of the draft Sydney Region Plan as well as some simple survey questions to fill out.

Myriam responds to the survey questions and then uses the statewide CPP linked on the NSW Planning Portal, to help her provide a planning focused feedback submission about the draft Sydney Region Plan.

Myriam would like to see more housing near the local train station as she has been renting but wants more opportunities to buy a home in a well connected area.



Figure 4: Exhibition process – Strategic planning



Development assessment

Development that may impact where I live and work

Development assessment functions are undertaken by several planning authorities, including councils, panels, the IPC and State agencies, who make decisions on proposals in accordance with the relevant approval frameworks and planning controls.

Exhibition requirements for development assessment are proportionate to the level of impact a project will produce. During exhibition, the public can see how planning controls translate into buildings and places in their community.

Where a development application requires a more rigorous assessment, and additional consultation requirements set out in legislation or a SEPP, minimum timeframes are generally longer. For example, State significant development applications generally have longer minimum timeframes than local development applications assessed by councils.

You may be invited to lodge a submission on the following:



State significant projects

*Exhibited for a minimum of 28 days
(a minimum period of 14-day applies in specified circumstances)*

Development of a large scale and economic value, environmental sensitivity, or declared significant by the Planning Minister. This includes State significant developments and State significant infrastructure.

[Subscribe here](#) to receive email alerts of major projects in your local government area.

For applications that rely on a rezoning exhibited by the Department, the details of the proposed amendments to the relevant planning instrument(s) will be publicly exhibited concurrently with the application.



Regionally significant development

Exhibited for a minimum of 14 days

Certain development applications of large economic value, scale and/or complexity. Regional planning panels are made up of independent experts that decide whether to approve a development.



Did you know: You can view applications on exhibition and under assessment on the [NSW Planning Portal](#).



Local development

Exhibited for a minimum of 14 days

The most common type of development applications in NSW. Projects range from home extensions to medium sized commercial, retail, and industrial developments.



Did you know: You can view exhibited and determined applications using the [DA tracker](#).

Development excluded from notification and public exhibition

No exhibition

Certain development that meets relevant planning controls.

Development types specified in Table 6 will be excluded from exhibition requirements (if they do not include a clause 4.6 variation).



Continued on next page



Council-related development applications

Exhibited for a minimum of 28 days

Councils regularly lodge development applications as an applicant to complete their own projects and achieve outcomes for the community. This includes development such as parks, affordable housing and toilet blocks, as well as commercial proposals.



Where a development application requires a more rigorous assessment, and additional consultation requirements set out in legislation or a SEPP, minimum timeframes are generally longer. For example, state significant development applications have longer minimum timeframes than local development applications assessed by councils.

Development applications with additional considerations

Exhibited for a minimum of 28 days



Did you know: You can view exhibited and determined applications using the DA tracker.

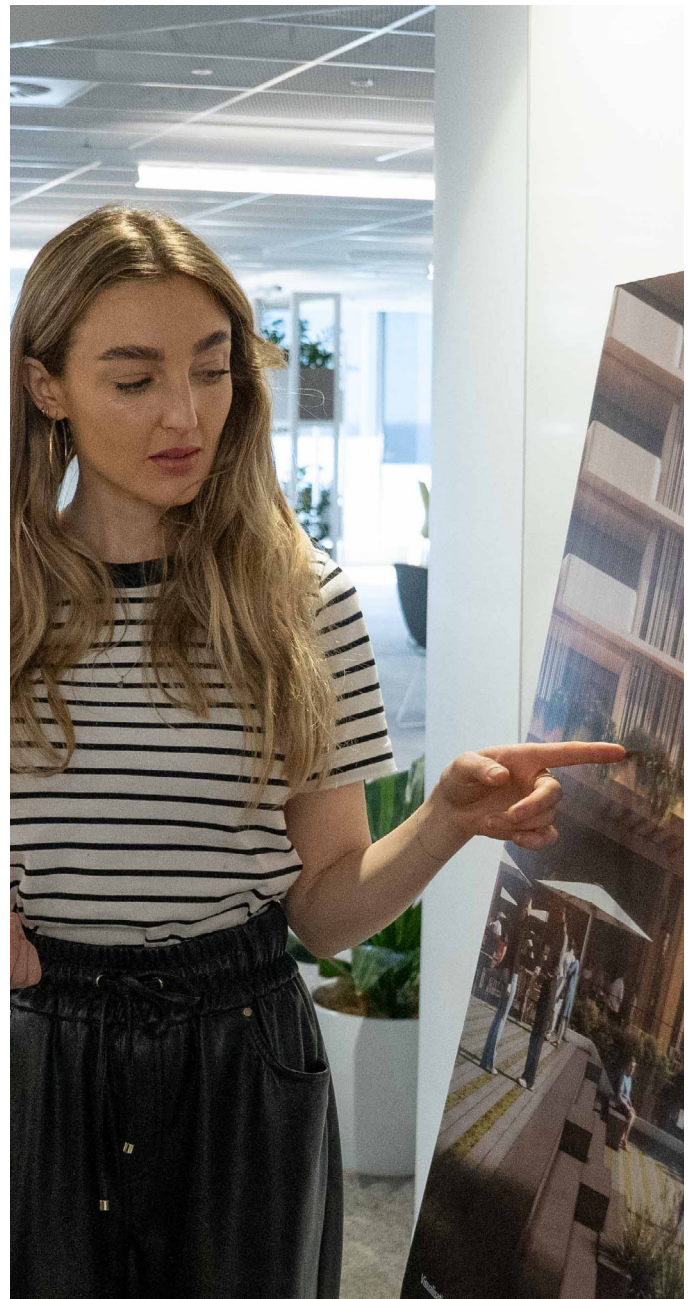


Designated development is a category of development that involves a higher level of assessment and scrutiny due to the potential risk it poses to the environment.

Nominated integrated development is development that requires certain approvals (such as a permit or license) from a NSW Government agency before it can be carried out.

Threatened species development is a category of development that affects threatened species and requires a species impact statement.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required if an activity will have a significant impact on the environment. The EIS assesses the economic, environmental and social impacts of a project.



Who is involved in development assessment:



Department

The Department assesses and in some cases determines State significant projects



Councils

Council assesses local and regionally significant development applications. Council also provides advice on State significant projects



Community

The community provide valuable feedback on projects during public exhibition



Industry

Industry experts provide advice and feedback on projects



Case study

Learning about a solar farm in my local area

There has been a post on a community social media group that a solar farm is proposed near Anne's local town, with many comments objecting to the idea.

This is the first time she's heard of the project and is curious, so she goes online to check if there are any project documents available for her review.

Anne discovers that the energy company is intending to host webinars next week to introduce locals to their proposal. This is suitable for Anne as she has two young children and is glad she can join in from home.

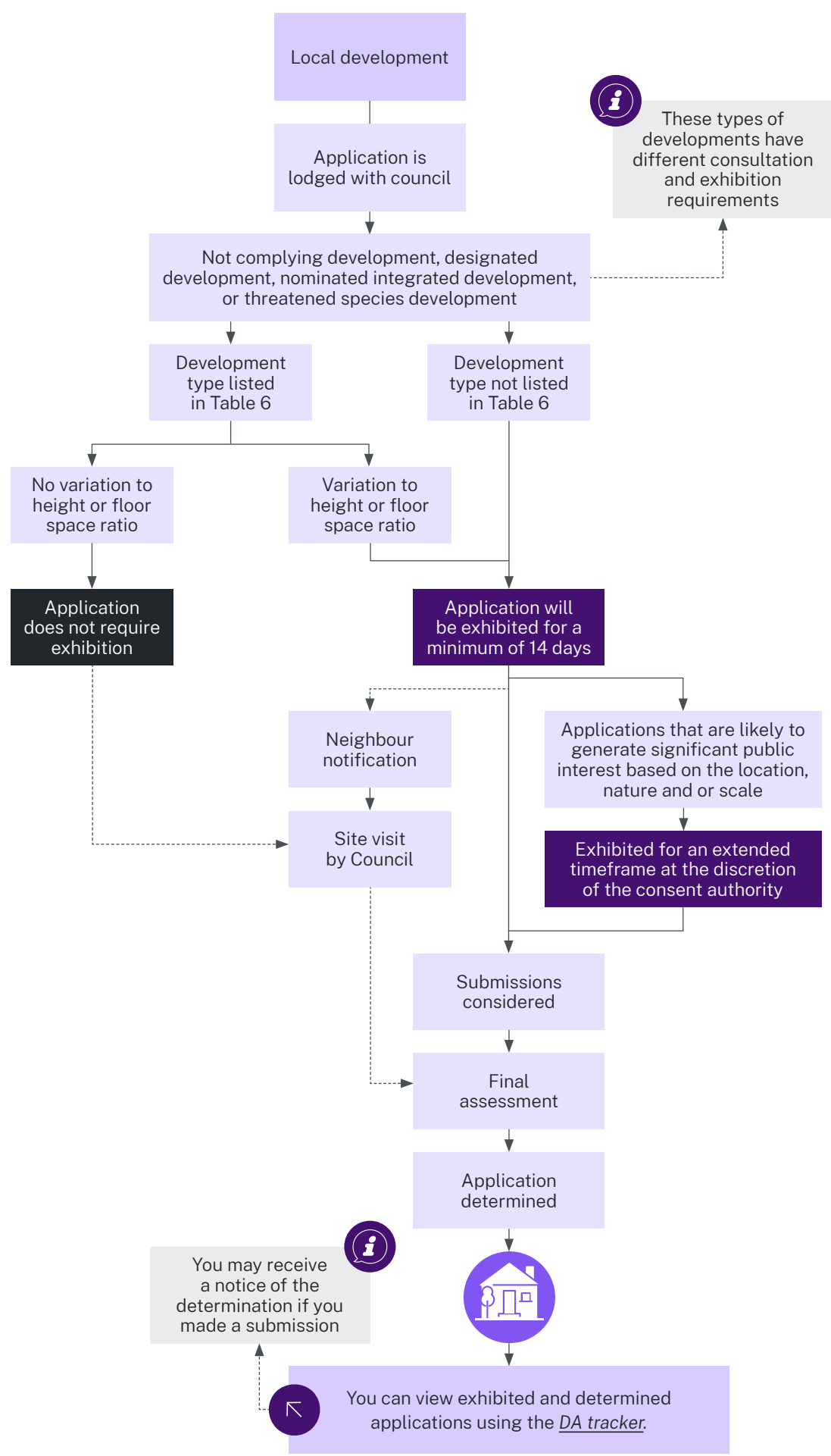
Upon joining the webinar, she discovers that the project is still in early development and a formal application is yet to be lodged.

It is also explained that for larger scale projects, such as renewable energy, the State Government assesses their environmental impact, as they are important to the State.

The community is being engaged as part of preparing the application, and Anne is encouraged to sign up for project updates to find out when the project moves through different stages of the planning process.

Anne will also be able to submit a formal submission when an environmental impact statement is lodged, and the formal exhibition process opens. It is important to be able to do this, as the submissions will be considered by the NSW Government as part of its assessment of the project.

Figure 5: Exhibition process –Local development





Other notice requirements

The following planning functions are subject to different approval pathways under NSW planning legislation and have varying notification requirements, which are not set by the community participation plan.

Some forms of development, such as exempt development, are considered low impact and do not require community notification. Others, such as complying development, voluntary planning agreements and certain development carried out without consent, may involve notification. This depends on statutory requirements or the nature and potential impacts of the proposal.

Table 2: Notice requirements for specific development types

Development type	Description	Notice requirement
Complying development 	Process that combines planning and construction approval for straight forward residential, commercial and industrial development. These provisions are in the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008. Complying development applications are not publicly exhibited as they meet specific development standards established for straight forward, low impact projects. Therefore, there is no opportunity to provide feedback.	For certain development types you will be notified before works commence. Council have a requirement to publish certain documents relating to complying development certificates on their website. Notice provisions are stipulated in the EP&A Regulation. Further information can be found in the Guide to complying development
Exempt development 	Very low impact development that can be done without planning or building approval for certain residential, commercial and industrial properties. These provisions are in the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008.	No applicable notice requirements. Visit the Exempt development web page for fact sheets and further information.
Voluntary planning agreements 	A method of securing contributions to help cover the cost of delivering infrastructure. They are legal agreements between a developer and a planning authority, such as the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, or local councils.	A proposed agreement, amendment or revocation must be made available for inspection by the public for at least 28 days, as set out in the EP&A Act. Notification of a planning agreement can happen concurrently with the related planning matter.
Development without consent (Review of environmental factors) 	Certain projects undertaken by councils, government departments or State agencies. Before work can start, public authorities are required to assess the environmental impacts of a project.	Notice periods are set out in the relevant environmental planning instruments, and guideline documents.

Public exhibition timeframes

Tables 3, 4, 5 and 6 set out mandatory requirements for public exhibition
Table 6 sets out when certain development types are excluded from public exhibition.

State and local planning framework

Table 3: Public exhibition timeframes for policy and legislation

Planning function	Minimum exhibition timeframe
Draft legislation and regulations (the Department)	Discretionary based on the urgency, scale or nature of the proposal
Policies, guidelines or strategies publicly exhibited for a planning purpose	28 days unless decided otherwise due to the urgency, scale and nature of the proposal

Additionally, the Department may exhibit other proposals consistent with community participation objectives. For these functions, there may also be occasions where a government priority or administrative requirement demands immediate action, and the usual community participation process may be truncated.

Strategic planning

Table 4: Public exhibition timeframes for strategic planning

Planning function	Minimum exhibition timeframe
Draft community participation plan	28 days ¹
Planning proposals for local environmental plans subject to a gateway determination*	28 days or as specified by the gateway determination which may determine, due to the minor nature of the proposal, that no public exhibition is required ²
Draft development control plan	28 days ³
Draft contribution plans	28 days ⁴
Draft local strategic planning statements	60 days
Draft regional or district strategic plans	60 days
Draft activation precinct masterplans and delivery plans (including infrastructure delivery plans)	28 days ⁵
Structure plans, precinct plans and masterplans for urban renewal areas	42 days unless decided otherwise due to the urgency, scale and nature of the proposal

* Exhibition of planning proposals must also be carried out in accordance with the Department's Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline.

¹ EP&A Act, Schedule 1, clause 1.

² EP&A Act, Schedule 1, clause 4.

³ EP&A Act, Schedule 1, clause 5.

⁴ EP&A Act, Schedule 1, clause 6.

⁵ State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts — Regional) 2021, sections 3.6(6), 3.7(6).

Development assessment

Table 5: Public exhibition timeframes for development applications

Planning function	Minimum exhibition timeframe ⁶
Application for development consent. Exclusions: a) complying development, b) designated development, c) nominated integrated development, d) threatened species development, e) State significant development, and f) targeted assessment g) development listed in Table 6	14 days
Application for consent for the following State significant development: - Housing development carried out by or on behalf of the Aboriginal Housing Office or the Land and Housing Corporation under the <i>Planning Systems SEPP, Schedule 1, section 26</i> - In-fill affordable housing under the <i>Planning Systems SEPP, Schedule 1, section 26A</i> - Build-to-rent housing under the <i>Planning Systems SEPP, Schedule 1, section 27</i> - Seniors housing under the <i>Planning Systems SEPP, Schedule 1, section 28</i> - Development in accelerated TOD precincts under the <i>Planning Systems SEPP, Schedule 2, section 19</i> - Development declared under the <i>EP&A Act, section 4.36(3)</i>. Including on the recommendation of the Housing Delivery Authority	14 days
Application for development consent for targeted assessment development, including any amended application under the pathway	14 days, unless a different period is specified in a State environmental planning policy ⁷
Application for modification of development consent required to be publicly exhibited by the regulations	14 days ⁸
Application for the review of a determination or decision of a consent authority (Division 8.2 review)	The same period as the development application or modification application was originally notified or advertised
Application for development consent for all other State significant development	28 days
Application for development consent for designated development	28 days
Environmental impact statement for State significant infrastructure under Division 5.2	28 days
Application for development consent for nominated integrated development or threatened species development	28 days
Application for development consent for category 1 remediation work under Chapter 4 of SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021	28 days
Environmental impact statement obtained under Division 5.1	28 days
Council-related development applications	28 days
Re-exhibition of any amended application or matter	The period (if any) determined by the person or body responsible for publicly exhibiting the application or matter

⁶ Development applications that are likely to generate significant public interest based on the location, nature and or scale may be exhibited for an extended timeframe at the discretion of the consent authority.

⁷ EP&A Act, Schedule 1, clause 9C.

⁸ Excluding applications to modify a development consent made under section 4.55(2) specified in Table 6.

Development types excluded from public exhibition

Applications for development consent listed in Table 6 (other than applications for complying development certificates, designated development, nominated integrated development, threatened species development or for State significant development), are excluded from public exhibition, where the development:

- Does not require a variation to height of building or floor space ratio, under clause 4.6 of the Standard Instrument LEP (or an equivalent provision of any other environmental planning instrument).

Table 6: Development types excluded from public exhibition

Development types excluded from public exhibition ⁹
• Ancillary development to existing residential accommodation (such as but not limited to pools, sheds, pergolas and carports) • Bed and breakfast accommodation • Change of use (excluding a change of use to a registered club or pub, and excluding any development that adjoins, or is located on, land in a residential zone) • Demolition • Dual occupancy (up to two storeys) • Attached dwelling (up to 5 dwellings) • Dwelling house (up to two storeys) • Multi dwelling housing (up to 5 dwellings) • Secondary dwelling • Exhibition home • Extensive agriculture • Farm building • Home business • Home industry • Home occupation • Industrial retail outlet • Infrastructure facility in the Alpine region¹⁰ • Internal and external alterations and additions (excluding residential accommodation) • Internal and external alterations and additions to existing residential accommodation resulting in no more than two storeys • Kiosk • Repair and maintenance of recreation infrastructure, lifting facility, or snow-making infrastructure in the Alpine region • Roadside stall • Rural worker's dwelling • Signage (excluding where it adjoins or is in a residential zone) • Subdivision of land resulting in no more than 5 new lots • Subdivision of land that is subject to an existing development consent for its current use. • Temporary structure • Tree removal on private land • Applications to modify a development consent made under section 4.55(1) of the EP&A Act • Applications to modify a development consent made under section 4.55(1A) of the EP&A Act • Applications to modify a development consent made under section 4.56(1) of the EP&A Act with minimal environmental impact • Applications to modify a development consent made under section 4.55(2) of the EP&A Act where the development the subject of the consent is specified in this Table

⁹ Where a word or expression used in the Table is defined in the Dictionary to the standard instrument set out in the *Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006*, that definition applies to the word or expression as used in the Table.

¹⁰ As defined in Schedule 4A to *State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Regional) 2021*.

Key points to note about public exhibition

- Timeframes are measured in calendar days and include weekends.
- The period between 20 December and 10 January (inclusive) is excluded from the calculation of a period of public exhibition period as outlined in Schedule 1 to the EP&A Act.
- In certain circumstances there may be merit appeal rights for a person who makes a submission to object during the public exhibition of a development application for designated development and some state significant development projects.
- Public authorities are not required to make available for inspection any part of an environmental impact statement where this publication would, in the opinion of the public authority, be contrary to the public interest due to its confidential nature or for other reasons defined in relevant legislation, such as the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.
- Sections 287 and 287A of the EP&A Regulation require submissions on State significant projects and other development applications where the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, Planning Secretary or Independent Planning Commission is the consent authority, to be made through the NSW Planning Portal.
- The safety of community members, other stakeholders and staff must be considered during meetings, phone calls, and as part of any correspondence. Everyone has the right to participate in a respectful environment and are expected to behave in a manner that supports everyone's right to present their point of view.

Glossary

Planning terms and definitions	
Alpine region	Means the Alpine Region identified on the <u>State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Regional) 2021, Kosciuszko Alpine Region Land Application Map</u>
Activation precinct	A dedicated area within regional New South Wales which has been identified by the NSW Government to drive regional economic development and declared to be an Activation Precinct in a Schedule made under Chapter 3 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Regional) 2021
Community Participation Plan	The community participation plan prepared and published under Division 2.6 of the EP&A Act
Contribution plans	A plan developed by councils for the purposes of imposing conditions requiring local infrastructure contributions to fund new and upgraded public amenities and/or services required to accommodate development
Council-related development applications	A development application, for which a council is the consent authority, that is – (a) made by or on behalf of the council, or (b) for development on land, other than a public road within the meaning of the <u>Local Government Act 1993</u> – (i) of which the council is an owner, a lessee or a licensee, or (ii) otherwise vested in or under the control of the council Note – Land vested in or under the control of the council includes public land within the meaning of the <u>Local Government Act 1993</u>
Delivery plan	A delivery plan for an activation precinct means a delivery plan for the precinct that is approved by the Planning Secretary under section 3.7 of Chapter 3 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts – Regional) 2021
Designated development	Designated development refers to high-impact developments (e.g. likely to generate pollution) or those located in or near an environmentally sensitive area
Development control plans (DCP)	A plan providing detailed planning and design guidelines to support LEP planning controls
Environmental impact statement (EIS)	An EIS provides information on the economic, environmental, and social impacts of the project. It helps the community; government agencies and the consent authority make informed submissions or decisions on the project
Gateway determination	A gateway determination is issued following an assessment of the strategic merit of a proposal to amend or create an LEP and allows for the proposal to proceed to public exhibition
Local environmental plan (LEP)	An environmental planning instrument developed by a planning proposal authority, generally a council. An LEP sets the planning framework for a Local Government Area

Planning terms and definitions

Nominated integrated development	Integrated development that requires an approval (within the meaning of section 4.45) under — (a) a provision of the <u>Heritage Act 1977</u> specified in section 4.46(1), or (b) a provision of the <u>Water Management Act 2000</u> specified in section 4.46(1), or (c) a provision of the <u>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</u> specified in section 4.46(1)
Regional strategic plan	20-year plans addressing community needs for housing, jobs, infrastructure and a healthy environment for a region
Residential zone	Land in <i>R1 General Residential, R2 Low Density Residential, R3 Medium Density Residential, R4 High Density Residential or R5 Large Lot Residential</i> under a local environmental plan that adopts the standard instrument set out at the end of the <i>Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006</i> (or land in an equivalent land use zone, as that term is defined under clause 5 of <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021</i>)
State environmental planning policy (SEPP)	An environmental planning instrument developed by the Department, relating to State significant or statewide planning matters
State significant development (SSD)	Development that is declared to be state significant development under section 4.36 of the EP&A Act Developments may be declared to have State significance due to their size, location, economic value or potential impacts, for example new non-government schools and hospitals and energy generating facilities
State significant infrastructure (SSI)	Development that is declared to be state significant infrastructure under section 5.12 of the EP&A Act SSI includes major transport and services developments with significance and impact beyond the local area, for example rail infrastructure, road infrastructure and water storage or treatment facilities
Threatened species development	Development to which section 7.7(2) of the <u>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</u> or section 221ZW of the <u>Fisheries Management Act 1994</u> applies
Urban renewal area	- Areas identified as having good access to existing or planned public transport connections, suitable for rejuvenation with new homes and jobs - State significant precincts which are large areas of predominantly State-owned land within Greater Sydney, identified by the NSW Government as areas for growth because of their social, economic or environmental characteristics

Where can I find out more?

Planning function	Link
Acts, Regulations and SEPPs	Draft plans and policies on exhibition and under consideration can be found here: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say-
Strategic planning	Regional plans can be found here: www.planning.nsw.gov.au/plans-in-nsw/plans-by-region Local Strategic Planning Statements can be found here: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/local-strategic-planning-statements Contribution plans can be found here: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure-contributions Planning Proposals on exhibition can be found here: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/ppr
State significant projects	Subscribe to receive email alerts for Major Projects here: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/services/subscribe-notifications Track applications on exhibited here: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects?status=Exhibition&lga=All&development_type=All&industry_type=All&case_type=All
Regional planning panels	View applications with the Regional Planning Panels here: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/planning-panel
Development assessment	View councils' DA trackers here: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/map/council-trackers
Complying development	View the guide to complying development here: www.planning.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-02/guide-to-complying-development.pdf
Exempt development	Find more information on exempt development here: www.planning.nsw.gov.au/the-planning-system/development-assessment/planning-approval-pathways/exempt-development



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