

## Latest news from Planning Policy - December 2021



*Christmas  
Well  
Wishes*

The Planning Policy Unit (PPU) has a new home and a new name. . . .

### STATE PLANNING OFFICE

Department of Premier and Cabinet  
Executive Building  
Level 7, 15 Murray Street, Hobart

The State Planning Office wishes you well for the Holiday Season!  
We will continue to work hard to build, implement, and improve Tasmania's new planning system.  
Please check the [Planning in Tasmania](#) website for ongoing updates.

## Important updates

### Planning Policy Unit is now the State Planning Office

The Planning Policy Unit has recently **moved** from the Department of Justice (DOJ) to the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC). The PPU is now contained in the Policy and Intergovernmental Relations Division alongside the Local Government Office, (Whole of Government) Policy Division, and the Office of Security and Emergency Management.

The physical move to Level 7 of the Executive Building, 15 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000 occurred on 15 December 2021.

The name change to the **State Planning Office (State Planning)** reflects the wider variety of work we do and the structure of the DPAC Division. The Planning portfolio of the Minister remains the same.

The relocation to DPAC provides clearer separation between State Planning and the Tasmanian Planning Commission and reduces some of the confusion around their respective roles. Now as the State Planning Office, our team will continue to focus on the maintenance and review of the planning system, and providing planning and policy advice, while the Commission undertakes independent statutory assessments.

The move to DPAC also recognises the important work being undertaken to deliver the Government's planning reform agenda, which crosses all portfolios and requires a whole-of-Government perspective and inter-Agency engagement.

### Update your contact information

#### State Planning Office

Department of Premier and Cabinet  
Executive Building  
Level 7  
15 Murray Street  
HOBART TAS 7000

Postal Address: GPO Box 123  
HOBART TAS 7001

Phone: 03 6232 7038

Email: [State.Planning@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:State.Planning@dpac.tas.gov.au)

Web site: [www.planningreform.tas.gov.au](http://www.planningreform.tas.gov.au)

## Phase 1: Planning Reforms – Introduction of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme:

### ➤ Local Provisions Schedules assessments - Update

The rollout of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme continues across municipalities as individual Local Provisions Schedules (LPSs) are approved for each council by the Tasmanian Planning Commission.

The Tasman and Central Coast Local Provisions Schedules have now become effective, bringing the Tasmanian Planning Scheme into effect in both municipalities. You can view the Tasmanian Planning Scheme for [Central Coast](#) or [Tasman](#) on the Tasmanian Planning Commission website.

The Northern Midlands LPS is currently on exhibition for comment (closing soon) and can be viewed through the [Tasmanian Planning Commission website](#).

The Tasmanian Planning Scheme is now in effect through the LPSs approved in the following councils: Brighton, Burnie, Central Coast, Circular Head, Clarence, Devonport, Glenorchy, Meander Valley, Tasman, and West Coast.

More information on the Local Provision Schedules is available on the [Planning in Tasmania website](#).

### ➤ Review of State Planning Provisions

It is vital to maintain the State Planning Provisions (SPPs) as a current, policy led, evidence based, and strategically guided component of the Tasmanian planning system.

The [Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993](#) (LUPA Act) requires that the SPPs are reviewed every 5 years; this means they are due for review in 2022. This process will begin with the release of a scoping paper inviting comment on the issues to be addressed. As the SPPs also need to be reviewed following the making of the Tasmanian Planning Policies (TPPs), the review timeline will be extended to enable assessment for consistency with the TPPs once they are made.

In the meantime, a number of inputs will be able to inform the initial (pre-TPPs) phase of the review, including:

- feedback received by the Tasmanian Planning Commission on [draft Planning Directive No. 8](#)
- feedback received from councils on the SPPs under [s35G of the LUPA Act](#), and the recommendations from the Tasmanian Planning Commission
- work to date on a review of residential development standards from [Planning Directive No. 4.1 \(PDF, 1.0 MB\)](#)
- work to date on development of an apartment design code / guidelines as part of the [Medium Density Residential Development Standards Project](#)
- the preparation of minor amendments of the SPPs in accordance with the [Terms of Reference](#) issued by the Minister for Local Government and Planning.

More information will be provided as the projects progress.

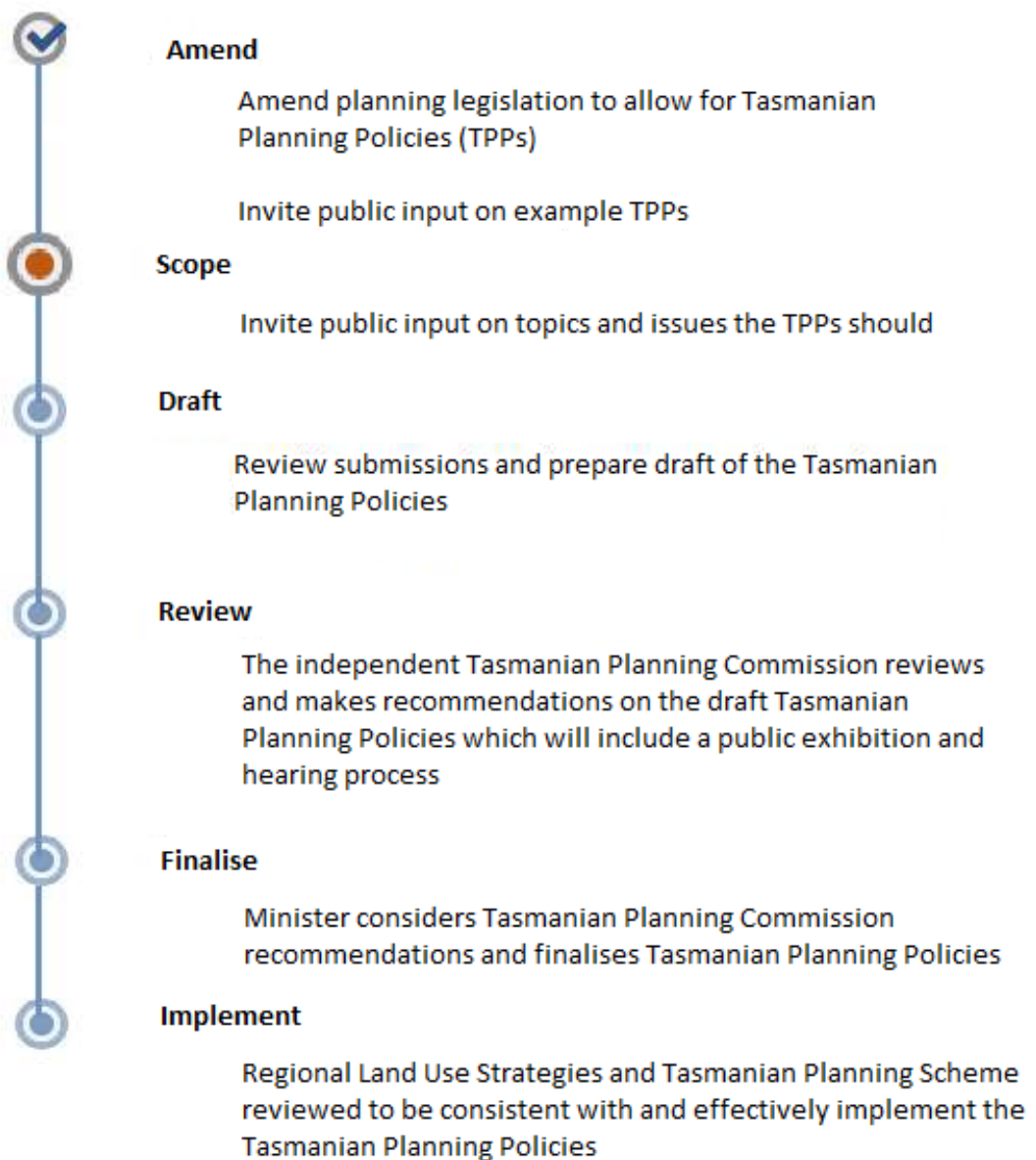
## Phase 2: Planning Reforms

### ➤ Tasmanian Planning Policies Scoping Paper – where to next

We are very encouraged to have received 108 submissions in response to the Tasmanian Planning Policies (TPPs) Scoping Paper. The submissions have been published on the [Community Consultation website](#) (unless otherwise specified). The submissions will be reviewed and help to inform the drafting of the TPPs.

The next steps will involve:

### Tasmanian Planning Policies - development time line



### ➤ **Regional planning framework – update**

State Planning Office is preparing a Discussion Paper to consider options for improving the current regional land use planning framework. Processes for preparing, assessing, reviewing and consulting on regional land use strategies will be discussed.

The Discussion Paper will be released for public consultation in 2022. Feedback received will help inform changes to the current framework and provide improved processes for review of the regional land use strategies following the making of the TPPs.

### ➤ **Comprehensive review of the regional land use strategies - update**

The most recent State Budget committed funding for the regions to address immediate planning issues, such as increasing growth pressures and ongoing housing demands. This work is moving us towards the comprehensive review of the three regional land use strategies.

State Planning Office has been meeting with the councils in the three regions to identify ways to address any immediate issues with regional land use strategies and their implementation.

Funding was recently committed to the Northern Region to undertake a comprehensive residential demand and supply study. A tender notice was recently advertised seeking a suitable consultancy to undertake this work. Similar projects are also being funded across the other two regions.

These projects will feed into the comprehensive reviews of regional land use strategies that will begin following the making of the TPPs.

## **Amendments to the Housing Land Supply Act 2018**

Amendments to the [Housing Land Supply Act 2018](#) (HLS Act) came into effect on 29 November 2021. Additional government land is now eligible for consideration to rezone for housing through a Housing Land Supply Order.

The amendments to the HLS Act:

- broaden the scope of eligible land to include land obtained by the Director of Housing after the HLS Act came into effect
- enable the consideration of government land unintentionally excluded from the HLS Act, along with suitable land on Flinders Island
- deliver a more inclusive consultation process and improved transparency in the decision-making processes
- align the assessment criteria for Housing Land Supply Orders with the normal planning process.

Information about the amended HLS Act is available on the [Planning in Tasmania](#) website.

## Amendment to the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy

The Minister has made an amendment to the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy (STRLUS) to include part of the property at 69 Brighton Road, Brighton inside the Urban Growth Boundary. The amendment replaces land that has recently been removed from Brighton’s residential land supply for the future Brighton High School.

The Frequently Asked Questions page of the [Planning in Tasmania](#) website has been updated to assist interpretation of the recent STRLUS amendment to insert new regional policy SRD 2.12.

### *Did you know . . . . .*

#### ➤ *Spatial Data Metrics for Greater Hobart*

Department of State Growth website now includes the [Spatial Data Metrics for Greater Hobart site](#). The site provides maps showing planning and infrastructure data to assist analysis and decision making for sustainable growth and development in the Greater Hobart area.

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## Spotlight on Planning Policy Unit

### *Introducing the Senior Adviser Stakeholder Engagement, Fiona Wells*



Fiona grew up in Hobart, next to Cadbury's Chocolate factory. She travelled overseas before attending the University of Adelaide in the 1990s, gaining a Bachelor of Arts (Hon) in Geography and Environmental Studies. Drawn to Victoria for work, she enjoyed 4 years with the Environment Protection Authority in Freshwater Science establishing river health indicators.

In 2001, Fiona moved back to Hobart and joined the Forest Practices Authority to establish better protection measures for small streams, before working as a freshwater scientist for her own consultancy. She then spent several years with the then Resource Planning and Development Commission (now The Tasmanian Planning Commission) on State of the Environment Reporting. Moving into the estuarine field, she spent 2 years as Coordinator of the Derwent Estuary Program, before going off to have babies.

Fiona rejoined the Commission in 2010 and worked in communications and as a project manager on the iplan website project, before moving into statutory planning assessments. Her role at State Planning (formerly PPU) began right at the beginning of lockdown in 2020, and home schooling was hilarious.

She enjoys teaching yoga to her local community and primary school, and every opportunity she gets, she's either in or on the water, the bush or the mountains.

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We invite you to visit the [Planning in Tasmania](#) website regularly as we keep you up to date with the latest planning information available including key information for:

- [The Tasmanian Planning Scheme](#)
- [State Planning Provisions \(SPPs\) \(pdf\)](#)
- [Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Fact sheets](#)
- [Information on Local Provisions Schedules \(LPSs\)](#)
- [Changes to the Planning Policy Unit](#)

**Contact:**

State Planning Office  
Department of Premier and Cabinet  
Executive Building  
Level 7, 15 Murray Street  
HOBART TAS 7000

GPO Box 123  
HOBART TAS 7001

**p** 03 62327036

**e** [State.Planning@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:State.Planning@dpac.tas.gov.au)

**w** [www.planningreform.tas.gov.au](http://www.planningreform.tas.gov.au)

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