

Latest news from Planning Policy - August 2021



Addressing Climate Change through better planning

The Planning Policy Unit is continuing to work hard to build, implement, and improve Tasmania's new planning system. Please check the [Tasmanian Planning Reform](#) website for ongoing updates.

Important updates

➤ **Amendments to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993***

Just a reminder that the recent amendments to the [Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993](#) (LUPA Act) are now in effect.

The amendments to the LUPA Act improve some of the processes for transitioning to the Tasmanian Planning Scheme, including the assessment and finalisation of the Local Provisions Schedules and delivering a fairer process for the assessment of development applications.

Detailed information on the changes is available on the [Tasmanian Planning Reform website](#).

➤ **Housing**

Public consultation is currently open until 1 September 2021 on the revised draft Housing Land Supply Amendment Bill 2021 which proposes amendments to the [Housing Land Supply Act 2018](#) (HLS Act). The draft Bill was revised in response to feedback received during the initial targeted consultation earlier this year.

The proposed 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;

- still contain the same exclusions and assessment criteria, but importantly provide a broader and longer public consultation period for deciding the suitability of recently obtained land;
- enable the consideration of government land previously unintentionally excluded from the HLS Act along with suitable land on Flinders Island; and
- align the assessment criteria with the normal planning process, and improve transparency in the decision making processes.

The revised draft Housing Land Supply Bill, along with an information pack, can be viewed on the [Department of Justice's Community Consultation website](#). The website provides details on how to make a submission on the draft Bill.

To further assist with Tasmania's housing shortage, the Government will continue to consider Housing Land Supply Orders to rezone suitable government land for residential purposes. Consultation and approval will occur in accordance with the HLS Act. For more information visit [Housing Land Supply Orders](#) on the Tasmanian Reform Website.

➤ [Regional Land Use Strategies](#)

The Government's 'Phase 2 Planning Reforms: Comprehensive review of the regional land use strategies' is underway. The reforms address the key Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council (PESRAC) planning advice. Phase 1 has involved the ongoing roll out of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme across councils.

The Phase 2 Planning Reforms include:

- the preparation, consultation, assessment and approval of the Tasmanian Planning Policies;
- the delivery of an improved legislative framework and governance structures for the consultation, review and approval of the updated strategies;
- data collection and analysis to facilitate the updates;
- short to medium-term updates to the current strategies during the intervening period; and
- conducting the comprehensive review of the regional land use strategies.

➤ [Update on Local Provisions Schedules assessments](#)

The Glenorchy Local Provisions Schedule came into effect on Wednesday, 18 August 2021, bringing the Tasmanian Planning Scheme into effect in the Glenorchy City Council area.

Glenorchy is the 7th municipality to bring the Tasmanian Planning Scheme into effect, along with Brighton Council, Burnie City Council, Circular Head Council, Devonport City Council, Meander Valley Council, and West Coast Council. The Glenorchy Local Provisions Schedule, along with all the others, can be viewed through the [Tasmanian Planning Commission website](#).

The following Local Provisions Schedules are currently available for public comment:

- **Southern Midlands – closes 6 September 2021**
[Southern Midlands Council website](#) or [Tasmanian Planning Commission website](#)
- **Launceston – closes 18 September 2021**
[Launceston City Council website](#) or [Tasmanian Planning Commission website](#)

➤ **Major Projects Determination Guidelines**

The Commission has issued Determination Guidelines in relation to the Major Projects declaration process. They can be viewed [here](#).

The guidelines are for the Minister to have regard to when considering the eligibility criteria for whether or not to declare a proposal as a major project.

The guidelines provide a context and further explanation to enable the Minister to interpret the eligibility criteria for a proposed major project.

For more information visit [Major Projects Assessment](#) on the Tasmanian Planning Reform website.

Did you know how climate change is being addressed by the State Planning Provisions?

Did you know that the State Planning Provisions in the Tasmanian Planning Scheme address a number of climate change related matters. These can assist with carbon reduction and mitigation and adaptation responses and include such things as:

- exemptions for vegetation rehabilitation works (such as Landcare activities), electric car chargers, and domestic renewable energy installations (such as solar panels);
- encouraging infill development opportunities and the better use of existing services and infrastructure through the application of the urban residential zones;
- encouraging the use of more sustainable forms of transport by enabling the identification of pedestrian priority streets, and reduced car parking requirements in specific precincts through the Parking and Sustainable Transport Code;
- planning controls relating to priority vegetation, wetlands and watercourses and future coastal refugia areas to assist with the protection of biodiversity and other natural values in conjunction with other legislation; and
- measures to reduce the vulnerability to the impacts of natural hazards such as bushfire, coastal erosion and inundation, flooding and landslip hazards which are likely to be exacerbated by climate change.

The Phase 2 Planning Reforms, including the preparation of the Tasmanian Planning Policies, will provide a further opportunity to consider climate change related issues and how these matters can be best managed through the planning system.

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Spotlight on Planning Policy Unit

Introducing the Director of PPU, Brian Risby



Brian was born in the UK in the 1950s and emigrated to Australia as a child in the 1960s. He attended Macquarie University in Sydney in the 1970s completing a Bachelor of Arts majoring in political science. In the 1980s Brian added a Graduate Diploma in Library and Information Science before starting a career as a librarian which brought him to Tasmania and eventually a change of career.

Brian has been involved in planning in Tasmania since 1989 including over 18 years' experience in State Government and 8 years as a consultant planner. As Director of the Planning Policy Unit (PPU) in the Department of Justice, Brian now leads the team tasked with delivering the State Government's planning reforms and maintaining the State's components of the planning system.

Prior to the PPU, Brian was seconded from the Tasmanian Planning Commission to the Planning Reform Taskforce and assisted with the preparation of the legislation and draft of the State Planning Provisions.

Brian holds a Masters Degree in Town Planning from the University of Tasmania. His town planning career started as a community advocate in Hobart representing the Sullivans Cove Citizens Association and Citizens for Hobart and he has worked with lobby groups as diverse as the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Tasmanian Conservation Trust. He has held executive positions at both state and national levels with the Planning Institute of Australia including as a National Vice-President. He has also served on the Board of the Environmental Defenders Office and the National Council of the Australian Conservation Foundation.

He lives in a modest 1940s house in West Hobart with his aging German Shepherd dog and spends the weekends with his partner at a very rustic shack at Bream Creek.

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We invite you to visit the [Tasmanian Planning Reform](#) 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 \(SPPs\)](#)
- [Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Fact sheets](#)
- [Information on Local Provisions Schedules \(LPSs\)](#)

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