

LOCAL PLANNING PANELS DIRECTION – REPORTING

I, the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, give the following direction under section 2.20(6) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Jim Oels

Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Dated: 7th July 2020

Objective

The objective of this direction is to set reporting requirements for councils with a local planning panel. Information will be provided by councils via a portal on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's website and will provide a quarterly set of statistics for panel performance and operations,

Application

This direction applies to any council that constitutes a local planning panel under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Direction

All councils are required to provide the information set out in Schedules 1 and 2 to this direction in relation to the activities undertaken by the local planning panel.

The information is to be submitted to the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment using the relevant portal at www.planning.nsw.gov.au.

This direction takes effect on 1 August 2020. Councils are required to provide the information by the last day of March, June, September and December of each year.

SCHEDULE 1

Information to be provided each time the panel considers a matter

- Council Name
- Date/s the local planning panel was convened in the reporting month
- Name of Chair
- Name of community representative

- Names of independent experts
- Time spent on site visits in hours
- Time spent at each public meeting in hours (excluding site visits)
- Time spent by the panel considering matters determined by an electronic circulation of papers.

Information provided for each application determined by the panel

- Was the application a development application, application for modification of development consent or a review application?
- Site address
- Referral criteria triggered
- Cost of works
- Number of new dwellings approved
- Number of storeys
- Was a site visit conducted?
- Was a panel briefing held during the assessment of the application?
- Did the applicant request the opportunity to brief the panel?
- Was the request for an applicant briefing granted?
- Number of unique submissions by way of objection
- Was a public meeting held?
- Number of registered speakers at the public meeting
- Determination of the panel- Approved (including deferred commencement), Refused, Deferred
- Whether the application was previously deferred
- Consistency with council assessment report recommendation
- Gross number of days the assessment took from the date of lodgement
- Net number of days the assessment took (taking into account stop-the-clock time) from the date of lodgement
- Number of days the determination took from the date of lodgement
- Number of days the determination took from the date an assessment report was provided to the panel
- Did the panel chair require the application be reported to the panel due to unreasonable delay?

SCHEDULE 2

Information to be provided quarterly

Planning Proposals

- Number of planning proposals referred to the panel for advice

- Number of recommendations provided

Code of Conduct Complaints

- Number of Code of Conduct complaints received
- Status of the complaint

Appeals relating to development applications determined by the panel

- Number and type of appeals commenced this quarter
- Number and type of appeals concluded this quarter
- Outcome of each appeal (if known)
- Development application reference number for commenced and concluded appeals
- Approximate legal expenses for all appeals concluded this quarter