



28 April 2021

Government Architect NSW

The Green Space Alliance NSW (GSA NSW), representing the Nursery and Garden Industry NSW & ACT (NGINA), The Landscape Industry and Turf NSW, appreciate and recognise the significance to the forthcoming Design SEPP and the critical role that it plays in giving the Draft Design Guide a level of statutory recognition. Having guidance is a good move, having regulation is a much better one.

Research tells us that despite almost 90% of urban councils having an urban forestry strategy (or equivalent) almost every LGA is undergoing tree canopy loss and the LGAs continue to meet the needs of communities and sporting organisation to hold sport and activities.

We believe that having a policy and/or target is one thing, but what really matters is having the means - regulatory, financial, and expertise.

DPIE NSW proposed Design and Place SEPP does not sufficiently regulate green space targets. History has shown that a design process code without mandatory minimum standards can trigger a wave of low-quality over-development. This would be a huge step backwards for NSW.

We oppose the repeal of the BASIX SEPP and recommend the BASIX SEPP be reviewed to incorporate standards for green infrastructure, landscape, turf and tree canopy.

