



New South Wales

# Environmental Planning and Assessment and Electoral Legislation Amendment (Planning Panels and Enforcement) Bill 2017

## Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

## Overview of Bill

The objects of this Bill are as follows:

- (a) to amend the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* in relation to the establishment and operation of local planning panels, and in particular:
  - (i) to require a council of an area in the Greater Sydney Region or the City of Wollongong to constitute a local planning panel and to allow other councils to do so, and
  - (ii) to provide that where a local planning panel has been constituted the consent authority functions of the council are not to be exercised by the councillors but are to be exercised on behalf of the council by the panel or by council staff as delegates of the council (and to authorise the Minister to give directions on the development applications that are to be determined on behalf of the council by a panel), and
  - (iii) to confer on a local planning panel (in addition to the consent authority functions of the council) the function of advising on planning proposals relating to planning instruments that are referred to the panel by the council (or at the direction of the Minister), and
  - (iv) to provide that a local planning panel is to be constituted by 4 members, comprising an independent chairperson approved by the Minister, 2 other independent persons with relevant experience approved by the Minister and a community representative for the area (or if the area is divided into wards, a community representative who is most closely associated with the matter before the panel), and

- (v) to enable the Minister to approve of individual persons to be appointed to a local planning panel or to approve of a panel of persons from whom a member is to be selected, and
  - (vi) to make provision relating to the members and procedure of a local planning panel that is similar to the provision made in relation to regional panels, and
  - (vii) to provide that existing local panels (called independent hearing and assessment panels) established as at 1 September 2017 are continued until 1 March 2018 and taken to be local planning panels under the proposed Act,
- (b) to amend the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* to make ancillary provisions relating to the exercise by a local planning panel of the consent authority functions of the council,
- (c) to amend the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011*:
- (i) to change the general threshold for regional panels to exercise the consent authority functions of a council from development exceeding \$20 million in capital investment value to development exceeding \$30 million in capital investment value, and
  - (ii) to transfer that threshold and other relevant thresholds relating to the jurisdiction of regional panels from the Act to the State Environmental Planning Policy,
- (d) to amend the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912* to authorise the Electoral Commission to institute proceedings for offences under the *Local Government Act 1993* in connection with the conduct of local government elections and to exercise its investigative powers under the *Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981* for that purpose,
- (e) to amend the *Local Government Act 1993* to extend the time for bringing criminal proceedings for an offence under the *Local Government Act 1993* in connection with the conduct of local government elections after the commencement of the proposed Act from 12 months to 3 years after the alleged commission of the offence.

## Outline of provisions

**Clause 1** sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

**Clause 2** provides for the commencement of the proposed Act.

**Schedule 1** (except items [4] and [11]) contains the amendments to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* set out in paragraph (a) of the Overview.

**Schedule 2** contains the amendment to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* set out in paragraph (b) of the Overview.

**Schedule 1 [4] and [11]** and **Schedule 3** contain the amendments to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and *State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011* set out in paragraph (c) of the Overview.

**Schedule 4** contains the amendment to the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912* set out in paragraph (d) of the Overview.

**Schedule 5** contains the amendment to the *Local Government Act 1993* set out in paragraph (e) of the Overview.



New South Wales

# Environmental Planning and Assessment and Electoral Legislation Amendment (Planning Panels and Enforcement) Bill 2017

## Contents

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	Page
1 Name of Act	2
2 Commencement	2
<b>Schedule 1</b>	
<b>Amendment of Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No 203</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Schedule 2</b>	
<b>Amendment of Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Schedule 3</b>	
<b>Amendment of State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Schedule 4</b>	
<b>Amendment of Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912 No 41</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Schedule 5</b>	
<b>Amendment of Local Government Act 1993 No 30</b>	<b>19</b>



New South Wales

# Environmental Planning and Assessment and Electoral Legislation Amendment (Planning Panels and Enforcement) Bill 2017

No. , 2017

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## **A Bill for**

An Act to amend the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and instruments under that Act with respect to local and regional planning panels; and to amend the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912* and the *Local Government Act 1993* with respect to the enforcement of local government election requirements.

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**The Legislature of New South Wales enacts:**

**1 Name of Act**

This Act is the *Environmental Planning and Assessment and Electoral Legislation Amendment (Planning Panels and Enforcement) Act 2017*.

**2 Commencement**

- (1) This Act commences on the date of assent to this Act, except as provided by subsection (2).
- (2) Schedule 1 [4] and [11] and Schedule 3 commence on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

<b>Schedule 1</b>	<b>Amendment of Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 No 203</b>	1
		2
<b>[1]</b>	<b>Section 4 (1), definition of “independent hearing and assessment panel”</b>	3
	Omit the definition.	4
<b>[2]</b>	<b>Section 4 (1), definition of “local planning panel”</b>	5
	Insert in alphabetical order in section 4 (1):	6
	<i>local planning panel</i> means a local planning panel constituted under Division 4 of Part 2A.	7
		8
<b>[3]</b>	<b>Section 23D Functions of Commission</b>	9
	Omit “an independent hearing and assessment panel” from section 23D (1) (c).	10
	Insert instead “a local planning panel”.	11
<b>[4]</b>	<b>Section 23G Joint regional planning panels</b>	12
	Omit section 23G (2A) and (2B). Insert instead:	13
	(2A) The functions of a consent authority may only be conferred on a regional panel in accordance with subsection (2) (a).	14
		15
	(2B) The functions of a consent authority in relation to any of the following development may not be conferred on a regional panel:	16
		17
	(a) complying development,	18
	(b) development for which development consent is not required,	19
	(c) development that is State significant development,	20
	(d) development for which a person or body other than a council is the consent authority,	21
		22
	(e) development within the area of the City of Sydney.	23
<b>[5]</b>	<b>Part 2A, Division 4</b>	24
	Omit the Division. Insert instead:	25
	<b>Division 4 Local planning panels and council delegates</b>	26
<b>23I</b>	<b>Exercise of consent authority functions on behalf of councils where local planning panel constituted</b>	27
		28
	(1) This section applies in respect of an area of a council for which a local planning panel has been constituted under this Division.	29
		30
	(2) The functions of a council as a consent authority under Part 4 in respect of any such area are not exercisable by the councillors. They are exercisable on behalf of the council by:	31
		32
		33
	(a) the local planning panel, or	34
	(b) an officer or employee of the council to whom the council delegates those functions, or	35
		36
	(c) a regional panel on which those functions are conferred under section 23G.	37
		38
	(3) The Minister may give directions to councils under section 117 (either to particular councils or to councils generally) on the development applications	39
		40

	that are to be determined on behalf of the council by a local planning panel.	1
	This subsection does not apply to development applications that are required to be determined by a regional panel.	2
		3
(4)	For the purposes of this section, the functions of a council as consent authority under Part 4 include:	4
		5
(a)	the determination of development applications and applications for the modification of development consents, and	6
		7
(b)	without limiting paragraph (a), the functions of a consent authority under Divisions 2 and 2A of Part 4 and sections 89A, 93I, 94, 94A, 94B, 94C, 94CA, 94EF, 94F, 95 (2), 96 (2) and 96AA, and	8
		9
		10
(c)	the functions of a consent authority or council under this Act or any other Act that relate to the carrying out of development (including the making of development applications) and that are declared by the regulations to be functions of a council as consent authority,	11
		12
		13
		14
	but do not include the functions of a consent authority or council that the regulations declare are not the functions of a council as consent authority.	15
		16
<b>23J</b>	<b>Constitution of local planning panels</b>	17
(1)	A council may constitute a single local planning panel for the whole of the area of the council.	18
		19
(2)	The following councils must constitute a single local planning panel for the whole of the area of the council:	20
		21
(a)	the council of an area that is wholly within the Greater Sydney Region,	22
(b)	the council of the City of Wollongong.	23
(3)	A single local planning panel may be constituted by 2 or more councils. In that case, any function exercisable by a council in relation to the panel is to be exercised jointly by all those councils.	24
		25
		26
(4)	The Minister may, under section 117, direct 2 or more particular councils referred to in subsection (2) to constitute a single local planning panel.	27
		28
(5)	If a council fails to constitute a local planning panel that it is required to constitute, the Minister may constitute the panel and for that purpose is taken to be the council.	29
		30
		31
(6)	A local planning panel is subject to any directions of the Minister under section 117.	32
		33
(7)	A local planning panel is not subject to the direction or control of the council, except in relation to any matter relating to the procedure of the panel (or to the time within which it is to deal with a matter) that is not inconsistent with any directions of the Minister under section 117.	34
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<b>23K</b>	<b>Members of local planning panels</b>	38
(1)	The members of a local planning panel are to be appointed by the relevant council.	39
		40
(2)	Each local planning panel is to comprise (subject to this section) the following 4 members:	41
		42
(a)	an approved independent person appointed as the chairperson of the panel with relevant expertise that includes expertise in law or in government and public administration,	43
		44
		45
(b)	2 other approved independent persons with relevant expertise,	46

(c)	a representative of the local community who is not a councillor or mayor.	1 2
(3)	For the purposes of this section, an <i>approved independent person</i> is an independent person approved by the Minister for appointment to the local planning panel or a person selected from a pool of independent persons approved by the Minister for appointment to the local planning panel. The Minister may approve different pools of independent persons.	3 4 5 6 7
(4)	If the area of the relevant council is divided into wards, the council is to appoint representatives of the local community for each ward as members of the local planning panel. All those representatives are entitled to attend a meeting of the local planning panel, but only one of them designated by the chairperson of the panel comprises the quorum for the meeting and is entitled to vote and be heard on a matter before the panel.	8 9 10 11 12 13
(5)	The representative so designated by the chairperson for a matter before the panel is to be the representative for the ward that the chairperson considers is most closely associated with that matter.	14 15 16
(6)	Relevant expertise for the purposes of this section is expertise in at least one area of planning, architecture, heritage, the environment, urban design, economics, traffic and transport, law, engineering, tourism or government and public administration.	17 18 19 20
<b>23L</b>	<b>Functions of local planning panels</b>	21
(1)	A local planning panel constituted by a council has the following functions:	22
(a)	the functions of the council as a consent authority under Part 4 in respect of the area for which the panel is constituted as provided by section 23I,	23 24
(b)	to advise the council on any planning proposal that has been prepared or is to be prepared by the council under section 55 and that is referred to the panel by the council,	25 26 27
(c)	to advise the council on any other planning or development matter that is to be determined by the council and that is referred to the panel by the council.	28 29 30
(2)	Subsection (1) (a) does not exclude a delegate of the council or a regional panel exercising functions as a consent authority under this Act.	31 32
(3)	The Minister may give directions to councils under section 117 (either to particular councils or to councils generally) on the planning proposals that are required to be referred to a local planning panel for advice.	33 34 35
(4)	This section does not limit the functions that may be exercised by a local planning panel under this Act.	36 37
<b>23LA</b>	<b>Miscellaneous provisions relating to local planning panels</b>	38
(1)	Schedule 4B contains provisions with respect to the members and procedure of local planning panels.	39 40
(2)	The regulations may make provision for or with respect to the following:	41
(a)	the functions conferred under this Act on local planning panels, including the procedures of panels in exercising their functions,	42 43
(b)	without limiting paragraph (a), providing that parties are not to be represented (whether by an Australian legal practitioner or any other person) or are only to be represented in specified circumstances,	44 45 46



(c)	the provision of information or reports by councils with respect to the exercise of functions by local planning panels.	1 2
(3)	The council is to provide staff and facilities for the purpose of enabling a local planning panel to exercise its functions.	3 4
(4)	The council is to monitor the performance of local planning panels constituted by the council.	5 6
(5)	A council that has constituted a local planning panel must provide a report to the Secretary, each year or other period directed by the Secretary, as to the following:	7 8 9
(a)	whether a local planning panel had been constituted by the council during the reporting period,	10 11
(b)	the matters referred to the panel in the reporting period,	12
(c)	the persons appointed to the panel,	13
(d)	any other matters relating to the exercise of functions by the panel as directed by the Secretary.	14 15
(6)	Legal proceedings by or against a local planning panel are to be taken in the name of the panel and not by or against the members of the panel.	16 17
(7)	A local planning panel may delegate any function of the panel under this or any other Act (other than this power of delegation) to the general manager or other staff of the council. Section 381 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> does not apply to any such delegation.	18 19 20 21
<b>[6]</b>	<b>Section 23O Recovery of certain costs</b>	22
	Omit “independent hearing and assessment panel” from section 23O (3).	23
	Insert instead “local planning panel”.	24
<b>[7]</b>	<b>Section 78A Application</b>	25
	Insert after section 78A (6):	26
(6A)	The functions of a council under subsections (3)–(6) in relation to a development application may be exercised by a local planning panel or delegate that has the function of determining the development application on behalf of the council.	27 28 29 30
<b>[8]</b>	<b>Section 82A Review of determination</b>	31
	Insert “or a local planning panel” after “a regional panel” in section 82A (12).	32
<b>[9]</b>	<b>Section 117 Directions by the Minister</b>	33
	Insert after section 117 (2) (b):	34
(b1)	on a matter relating to the establishment and procedure of a local planning panel, on the development applications that are to be determined on behalf of a council by a local planning panel and on the planning proposals that are required to be referred to a local planning panel for advice, as referred to in Division 4 of Part 2A, and	35 36 37 38 39
<b>[10]</b>	<b>Section 158 Exclusion of personal liability</b>	40
	Omit “an independent hearing and assessment panel” from section 158 (d).	41
	Insert instead “a local planning panel”.	42

<b>[11] Schedule 4A Development for which regional panels may be authorised to exercise consent authority functions of councils</b>	1
Omit the Schedule.	2
	3
<b>[12] Schedule 4B</b>	4
Insert before Schedule 5:	5
<b>Schedule 4B Provisions relating to local planning panels</b>	6
	(Section 23LA) 7
<b>Part 1 Preliminary</b>	8
<b>1 Definitions</b>	9
In this Schedule:	10
<i>member</i> means the chairperson or other member of a panel.	11
<i>panel</i> means a local planning panel.	12
<b>Part 2 Provisions relating to members of panels</b>	13
<b>2 Terms of office of members</b>	14
(1) A member of a panel holds office, subject to this Act and the regulations, for such period (not exceeding 3 years) as is specified in the member's instrument of appointment.	15 16 17
(2) That period may be determined by reference to the occurrence of a specified event or the completion of the exercise of particular functions of the panel.	18 19
(3) A member is eligible (if otherwise qualified) for re-appointment.	20
(4) A member of a panel may not hold office as a member of that panel for more than 6 years in total.	21 22
<b>3 Part-time office</b>	23
The office of a member of a panel is a part-time office.	24
<b>4 Remuneration of members</b>	25
A member of a panel is entitled to be paid such remuneration (including travelling and subsistence allowances) as the Minister may from time to time determine in respect of the member.	26 27 28
<b>5 Alternate members</b>	29
(1) A council may, from time to time, appoint a person to be the alternate of a member of a panel appointed by the council, and may revoke any such appointment.	30 31 32
(2) A person is not eligible to be appointed as the alternate of a member unless the person is eligible to be appointed as that member.	33 34
(3) In the absence of a member, the member's alternate may, if available, act in the place of the member.	35 36
(4) While acting in the place of a member, a person has all the functions of the member and is taken to be a member.	37 38

- (5) A person may be appointed as the alternate of 2 or more members of a panel, but may represent only one of those members at any meeting of the panel. 1  
2
- (6) A number of persons may be appointed as the alternate of one or more members of a panel. The person who may act in the place of a member on any particular occasion is the person determined by the chairperson of the panel. 3  
4  
5
- (7) A person while acting in the place of a member is entitled to be paid such remuneration (including travelling and subsistence allowances) as the council may from time to time determine in respect of the person. 6  
7  
8
- 6 Removal from office of members** 9
- (1) A council may remove a member of a panel appointed by the council from office at any time for any reason and without notice. However, the general manager of the council must provide a written statement of the reasons for removing the member from office and make the statement publicly available. 10  
11  
12  
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- (2) The Minister may remove a member of a panel from office if the Independent Commission Against Corruption, in a report referred to in section 74C of the *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988*, recommends that consideration be given to the removal of the member from office because of corrupt conduct by the member. 14  
15  
16  
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18
- 7 Vacancy in office of member** 19
- (1) The office of a member of a panel becomes vacant if the member: 20
- (a) dies, or 21
  - (b) completes a term of office and is not re-appointed, or 22
  - (c) resigns the office by instrument in writing addressed to the council that appointed the member, or 23  
24
  - (d) is removed from office under this or any other Act, or 25
  - (e) is absent from 3 consecutive meetings of the panel of which reasonable notice has been given to the member, except on leave granted by the panel or unless the member is excused by the panel for having been absent from those meetings, or 26  
27  
28  
29
  - (f) becomes bankrupt, applies to take the benefit of any law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors, compounds with his or her creditors or makes an assignment of his or her remuneration for their benefit, or 30  
31  
32
  - (g) becomes a mentally incapacitated person, or 33
  - (h) is convicted in New South Wales of an offence that is punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or more or is convicted elsewhere than in New South Wales of an offence that, if committed in New South Wales, would be an offence so punishable. 34  
35  
36  
37
- (2) If the office of a member becomes vacant, a person may, subject to this Act and the regulations, be appointed to fill the vacancy. 38  
39
- 8 Effect of certain other Acts** 40
- (1) The statutory provisions relating to the employment of Public Service employees do not apply to the appointment or office of a member of a panel. 41  
42
- (2) If by or under any Act provision is made: 43
- (a) requiring a person who is the holder of a specified office to devote the whole of his or her time to the duties of that office, or 44  
45

(b) prohibiting the person from engaging in employment outside the duties of that office,	1 2
the provision does not operate to disqualify the person from holding that office and also the office of a member of a panel or from accepting and retaining any remuneration payable to the person under this Act as a member.	3 4 5
<b>Part 3 Provisions relating to procedure of panels</b>	6
<b>9 General procedure</b>	7
(1) The procedure for the calling of meetings of a panel and for the conduct of business at those meetings is, subject to this Act, any code of conduct under this Schedule or other directions of the Minister under section 117, to be as determined by the panel.	8 9 10 11
(2) Subject to this clause, a panel is not bound by the rules of evidence.	12
<b>10 Quorum</b>	13
The quorum for a meeting of a panel is 3 members.	14
<b>11 Presiding member</b>	15
(1) The chairperson of a panel or, in the absence of the chairperson, the member appointed by the members of the panel is to preside at a meeting of the panel.	16 17
(2) The presiding member has a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of votes, has a second or casting vote.	18 19
<b>12 Voting</b>	20
A decision supported by a majority of the votes cast at a meeting of a panel at which a quorum is present is the decision of the panel.	21 22
<b>13 Public meetings</b>	23
A panel may (unless the Minister or the council otherwise directs) conduct its meetings in public, and is required to do so for the conduct of any business that is required to be conducted in public by a direction of the Minister or the council.	24 25 26 27
<b>14 Transaction of business outside meetings or by telephone etc</b>	28
(1) A panel may, if it thinks fit, transact any of its business by the circulation of papers among all the members of the panel for the time being, and a resolution in writing approved in writing by a majority of those members is taken to be a decision of the panel.	29 30 31 32
(2) A panel may, if it thinks fit, transact any of its business at a meeting at which members (or some members) participate by telephone, closed-circuit television or other means, but only if any member who speaks on a matter before the meeting can be heard by the other members.	33 34 35 36
(3) For the purposes of:	37
(a) the approval of a resolution under subclause (1), or	38
(b) a meeting held in accordance with subclause (2),	39
the chairperson and each member of the panel have the same voting rights as they have at an ordinary meeting of the panel.	40 41

- (4) A resolution approved under subclause (1) is to be recorded in the minutes of the meetings of the panel. 1  
2
- (5) Papers may be circulated among the members for the purposes of subclause (1) by electronic transmission of the information in the papers concerned. 3  
4  
5
- 15 Disclosure of pecuniary interests** 6
- (1) If: 7
- (a) a member of a panel has a pecuniary interest in a matter being considered or about to be considered at a meeting of the panel, and 8  
9
- (b) the interest appears to raise a conflict with the proper performance of the member's duties in relation to the consideration of the matter, 10  
11
- the member must, as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to the member's knowledge, disclose the nature of the interest at a meeting of the panel. 12  
13  
14
- (2) A member has a pecuniary interest in a matter if the pecuniary interest is the interest of: 15  
16
- (a) the member, or 17
- (b) the member's spouse or de facto partner or a relative of the member, or a partner or employer of the member, or 18  
19
- (c) a company or other body of which the member, or a nominee, partner or employer of the member, is a member. 20  
21
- (3) However, a member is not taken to have a pecuniary interest in a matter as referred to in subclause (2) (b) or (c): 22  
23
- (a) if the member is unaware of the relevant pecuniary interest of the spouse, de facto partner, relative, partner, employer or company or other body, or 24  
25  
26
- (b) just because the member is a member of, or is employed by, a council or a statutory body or is employed by the Crown, or 27  
28
- (c) just because the member is a member of, or a delegate of a council to, a company or other body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter, so long as the member has no beneficial interest in any shares of the company or body. 29  
30  
31  
32
- (4) A disclosure by a member at a meeting of the panel that the member, or a spouse, de facto partner, relative, partner or employer of the member: 33  
34
- (a) is a member, or is in the employment, of a specified company or other body, or 35  
36
- (b) is a partner, or is in the employment, of a specified person, or 37
- (c) has some other specified interest relating to a specified company or other body or to a specified person, 38  
39
- is a sufficient disclosure of the nature of the interest in any matter relating to that company or other body or to that person which may arise after the date of the disclosure and which is required to be disclosed under subclause (1). 40  
41  
42
- (5) Particulars of any disclosure made under this clause must be recorded by the panel and that record must be open at all reasonable hours to inspection by any person on payment of the fee determined by the panel. 43  
44  
45
- (6) After a member of a panel has disclosed the nature of an interest in any matter, the member must not, unless the Minister or the panel otherwise determines: 46  
47

(a)	be present during any deliberation of the panel with respect to the matter, or	1
		2
(b)	take part in any decision of the panel with respect to the matter.	3
(7)	For the purposes of the making of a determination by the panel under subclause (6), a member who has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter to which the disclosure relates must not:	4
		5
		6
(a)	be present during any deliberation of the panel for the purpose of making the determination, or	7
		8
(b)	take part in the making by the panel of the determination.	9
(8)	A contravention of this clause does not invalidate any decision of the panel.	10
<b>16</b>	<b>Code of conduct</b>	11
(1)	The Minister may approve a code of conduct that is applicable to members of panels.	12
		13
(2)	A code of conduct may relate to any conduct (whether by way of act or omission) in carrying out a member's functions that is likely to bring the panel or its members into disrepute.	14
		15
		16
(3)	The Minister may authorise a panel to vary a code of conduct in relation to the members of that panel.	17
		18
<b>[13]</b>	<b>Schedule 6 Savings, transitional and other provisions</b>	19
	Insert at the end of the Schedule, with appropriate Part and clause numbering:	20
<b>Part</b>	<b>Environmental Planning and Assessment and Electoral Legislation Amendment (Planning Panels and Enforcement) Act 2017</b>	21
		22
		23
	<b>Definitions</b>	24
	In this Part:	25
	<b>amending Act</b> means the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment and Electoral Legislation Amendment (Planning Panels and Enforcement) Act 2017</i> .	26
		27
		28
	<b>existing local panel</b> means:	29
(a)	an independent hearing and assessment panel constituted by a relevant council, as at 1 September 2017, under section 23I (as in force before the substitution of that section by the amending Act), or	30
		31
		32
(b)	any other panel constituted by a relevant council, as at 1 September 2017, under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> to advise on development applications or to determine development applications as a delegate of the council.	33
		34
		35
		36
	<b>relevant council</b> means:	37
(a)	the council of an area that is wholly within the Greater Sydney Region, and	38
		39
(b)	the council of the City of Wollongong.	40

<b>Existing local panels to continue as local planning panels</b>	1
(1) An existing local panel is taken to have been constituted by the relevant council as a local planning panel under section 23J (as substituted by the amending Act).	2 3 4
(2) The members of the existing local panel (as at 1 September 2017) are taken to have been appointed by the relevant council as members of the local planning panel. Any such member may not be removed from office by the council without the approval of the Minister.	5 6 7 8
(3) Subclause (2) ceases to have effect on 1 March 2018.	9
<b>Interim arrangements for councils that do not have existing local panel</b>	10
(1) This clause applies in relation to a relevant council that has not constituted an existing local panel as at 1 September 2017.	11 12
(2) A relevant council is not required to constitute a local planning panel under section 23J (as substituted by the amending Act) until 1 March 2018.	13 14
<b>Regional panel amendments do not affect pending matters</b>	15
The amendments made by the amending Act in relation to regional panels do not affect any application pending on the commencement of those amendments or any decision made under the Act before that commencement.	16 17 18
<b>Extension of period for instituting local government election offences</b>	19
The extension from 12 months to 3 years of the period within which proceedings for offences in connection with the conduct of local government elections may be commenced (as a consequence of the amendment to section 693 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> made by the amending Act) applies to offences committed after the commencement of the amending Act.	20 21 22 23 24
<b>Savings and transitional regulations</b>	25
(1) This clause applies to regulations made under Part 1 of this Schedule that contain provisions of a savings or transitional nature consequent on the enactment of the amending Act.	26 27 28
(2) The provisions of those regulations have effect despite anything to the contrary in this Part.	29 30
(3) The regulations may make separate savings and transitional provisions or amend this Part to consolidate the savings and transitional provisions.	31 32

<b>Schedule 2</b>	<b>Amendment of Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</b>	1
		2
<b>Part 6, Division 16</b>		3
Insert after Division 15 of Part 6:		4
<b>Division 16</b>	<b>Provisions relating to local planning panels exercising consent authority functions</b>	5
		6
<b>124H</b>	<b>Development applications where land is in 2 or more local government areas</b>	7
	If a single local planning panel has been established for 2 or more councils, a separate development application for proposed development situated in the areas of more than 1 of those councils must be lodged with each council for an area in which the proposed development is situated.	8 9 10 11
<b>124I</b>	<b>Procedural matters related to determination of development applications</b>	12
(1)	A local planning panel may, for the purpose of determining a development application (or an application to modify a development consent):	13 14
(a)	obtain assessment reports, in addition to any assessment report or other information provided by a relevant council in dealing with the application, and	15 16 17
(b)	obtain other technical advice or assistance as the panel thinks fit.	18
(2)	If a development consent is granted by a local planning panel subject to a condition referred to in section 80 (3) or 80A (2) of the Act, the panel is taken to be satisfied as to a matter specified in the condition if the council for the area in which the land on which the development is to be carried out notifies the chairperson of the panel in writing that the matter specified in the condition has been satisfied.	19 20 21 22 23 24
<b>124J</b>	<b>Procedural matters relating to determination of applications to modify consents</b>	25 26
	A local planning panel may carry out consultation for the purposes of section 96 (2) (b) of the Act by directing the general manager of a council for an area in which the development the subject of the consent is to be carried out to consult with the relevant Minister, public authority or approval body on behalf of the panel.	27 28 29 30 31



<b>Schedule 3</b>	<b>Amendment of State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011</b>	1
		2
<b>[1] Clause 4 Definitions</b>		3
	Omit “Schedule 4A to the Act” from the definition of <i>sensitive coastal location</i> .	4
	Insert instead “Schedule 7”.	5
<b>[2] Clause 20 Development to which Part applies</b>		6
	Omit “Schedule 4A to the Act”. Insert instead “Schedule 7”.	7
<b>[3] Clause 22 Staged development functions for development exceeding minimum capital investment values</b>		8
	Omit “Schedule 4A to the Act”. Insert instead “Schedule 7”.	9
		10
<b>[4] Schedule 7</b>		11
	Insert at the end of the Policy:	12
<b>Schedule 7</b>	<b>Development for which regional panels may be authorised to exercise consent authority functions of councils</b>	13
		14
		15
<b>1 Definitions</b>		16
(1)	In this Schedule:	17
	<i>capital investment value</i> has the same meaning as in the regulations under the Act.	18
		19
	<i>coastal zone</i> has the same meaning as in the <i>Coastal Management Act 2016</i> .	20
	<i>Crown development</i> means development carried out by or on behalf of the Crown (within the meaning of Division 4 of Part 4 of the Act).	21
		22
	<i>eco-tourist facility</i> means a building or place used for tourist and visitor accommodation, function centres or environmental facilities that is located in a natural environment and is primarily used for activities involving education about, or the interpretation, cultural understanding or appreciation of, the natural environment.	23
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	<i>metropolitan coastal zone</i> means that part of the coastal zone between the northern boundary of the local government area of Newcastle City and the southern boundary of the local government area of Shellharbour City.	28
		29
		30
	<i>rail infrastructure facilities</i> has the same meaning as it has in Division 15 of Part 3 of <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007</i> .	31
		32
	<i>road infrastructure facilities</i> has the same meaning as it has in Division 17 of Part 3 of <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007</i> .	33
		34
	<i>sensitive coastal location</i> means any of the following which occur within the coastal zone:	35
		36
	(a) land within 100m above mean high water mark of the sea, a bay or an estuary,	37
		38
	(b) a coastal lake,	39
	(c) a declared Ramsar wetland within the meaning of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> of the Commonwealth,	40
		41
		42

(d)	a declared World Heritage property within the meaning of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> of the Commonwealth,	1 2 3
(e)	land declared as a marine park or an aquatic reserve under the <i>Marine Estate Management Act 2014</i> ,	4 5
(f)	land within 100m of any of the following:	6
(i)	the water's edge of a coastal lake,	7
(ii)	land to which paragraph (c), (d) or (e) applies,	8
(iii)	land reserved under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> ,	9
(iv)	land to which <i>State Environmental Planning Policy No 14—Coastal Wetlands</i> applies,	10 11
(g)	residential land (within the meaning of <i>State Environmental Planning Policy No 26—Littoral Rainforests</i> ) that is within a distance of 100m from the outer edge of the heavy black line on the series of maps held in the Department and marked "State Environmental Planning Policy No 26—Littoral Rainforests (Amendment No 2)".	12 13 14 15 16
	<i>subdivision of land</i> does not include a boundary adjustment, a strata subdivision, or a community title subdivision associated with another development that has been approved.	17 18 19
(2)	Words and expressions in this Schedule have (subject to subclause (1)) the same meaning as they have in the standard instrument prescribed by the <i>Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006</i> .	20 21 22
<b>2</b>	<b>Excluded development</b>	23
	Development of a class or description otherwise set out in this Schedule is excluded from this Schedule if it is:	24 25
(a)	complying development, or	26
(b)	development for which development consent is not required, or	27
(c)	development that is State significant development, or	28
(d)	development for which a person or body other than a council is the consent authority, or	29 30
(e)	development within the area of the City of Sydney.	31
<b>3</b>	<b>General development over \$30 million</b>	32
	Development that has a capital investment value of more than \$30 million.	33
<b>4</b>	<b>Council related development over \$5 million</b>	34
	Development that has a capital investment value of more than \$5 million if:	35
(a)	a council for the area in which the development is to be carried out is the applicant for development consent, or	36 37
(b)	the council is the owner of any land on which the development is to be carried out, or	38 39
(c)	the development is to be carried out by the council, or	40
(d)	the council is a party to any agreement or arrangement relating to the development (other than any agreement or arrangement entered into under the Act or for the purposes of the payment of contributions by a person other than the council).	41 42 43 44

<b>5</b>	<b>Crown development over \$5 million</b>	1
	Crown development that has a capital investment value of more than \$5 million.	2 3
<b>6</b>	<b>Private infrastructure and community facilities over \$5 million</b>	4
	Development that has a capital investment value of more than \$5 million for any of the following purposes:	5 6
	(a) air transport facilities, electricity generating works, port facilities, rail infrastructure facilities, road infrastructure facilities, sewerage systems, telecommunications facilities, waste or resource management facilities, water supply systems, or wharf or boating facilities,	7 8 9 10
	(b) affordable housing, child care centres, community facilities, correctional centres, educational establishments, group homes, health services facilities or places of public worship.	11 12 13
<b>7</b>	<b>Eco-tourist facilities over \$5 million</b>	14
	Development for the purpose of eco-tourist facilities that has a capital investment value of more than \$5 million.	15 16
<b>8</b>	<b>Particular designated development</b>	17
	Development for the purposes of:	18
	(a) extractive industries, which meet the requirements for designated development under clause 19 of Schedule 3 to the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i> , or	19 20 21
	(b) marinas or other related land and water shoreline facilities, which meet the requirements for designated development under clause 23 of Schedule 3 to the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i> , or	22 23 24 25
	(c) waste management facilities or works, which meet the requirements for designated development under clause 32 of Schedule 3 to the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000</i> .	26 27 28
<b>9</b>	<b>Coastal subdivision</b>	29
	Development within the coastal zone for the purposes of subdivision of the following kind:	30 31
	(a) subdivision of land for any purpose into more than 100 lots, if more than 100 of the lots will not be connected to an approved sewage treatment work or system,	32 33 34
	(b) subdivision of land for residential purposes into more than 100 lots, if the land:	35 36
	(i) is not in the metropolitan coastal zone, or	37
	(ii) is wholly or partly in a sensitive coastal location,	38
	(c) subdivision of land for rural-residential purposes into more than 25 lots, if the land:	39 40
	(i) is not in the metropolitan coastal zone, or	41
	(ii) is wholly or partly in a sensitive coastal location.	42
<b>10</b>	<b>Development subject to delays in determination</b>	43
	Development that has a capital investment value of more than \$10 million but less than \$30 million:	44 45

- (a) for which a development application to the relevant council has been lodged but not determined within 120 days after the application was lodged, and 1  
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  - (b) that is the subject of a written request to that council by the applicant for the application to be dealt with by a regional panel, 4  
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- unless the chairperson of the regional panel concerned determines that the delay in determining the development application was caused by the applicant. 7
- 11 Development in council areas where development assessment unsatisfactory 8**
- (1) Development within the area of a particular council for particular purposes designated by the Minister by order published on the NSW legislation website. 9  
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  - (2) Such an order cannot be made unless the Minister is satisfied that the performance of the council concerned in dealing with development matters has not met applicable performance criteria. 11  
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13

<b>Schedule 4</b>	<b>Amendment of Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912 No 41</b>	1
		2
<b>Section 21CA</b>		3
Insert after section 21C:		4
<b>21CA</b>	<b>Enforcement functions of Electoral Commission with respect to local government elections</b>	5
		6
(1)	The Electoral Commission may institute proceedings for offences under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> in connection with the conduct of local government elections. This subsection operates to extend and not limit the persons who may institute proceedings for those offences.	7
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(2)	A member of staff of the Electoral Commission is an authorised person for the purposes of section 679 (Penalty notices for certain offences) of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> in connection with offences referred to in subsection (1).	11
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(3)	For the purpose of ensuring compliance with the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> relating to local government elections, the Electoral Commission may exercise any investigative or other functions the Electoral Commission has under the <i>Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981</i> for the purpose of ensuring compliance with that Act.	15
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(4)	Accordingly, a reference in sections 110, 110A and 110B of the <i>Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981</i> to “this Act” is, in connection with the conduct of local government elections, taken to be a reference to the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> and the regulations under that Act.	20
		21
		22
		23
(5)	This section extends to local government elections held before the commencement of this section.	24
		25
(6)	In this section:	26
	<b>local government election</b> means an election under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> for the office of councillor or mayor under that Act (other than an election of mayor by councillors).	27
		28
		29

**Schedule 5 Amendment of Local Government Act 1993 No 30**

1

**Section 693 Time for bringing proceedings concerning electoral offences**

2

Omit “12 months”. Insert instead “3 years”.

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