

Queensland's planning framework

Our planning system is framed by the *Planning Act 2016* (the Act) and supporting legislation, which replaced the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* on 3 July 2017. The new planning legislation is the result of a significant planning reform and consultation process, which saw every planning instrument in the framework examined and renewed.

The Queensland Government worked extensively with the community, council and planning industry to develop better planning laws and instruments to provide for a more transparent and accountable system that encourages meaningful community engagement.

The legislation establishes the framework of planning instruments that supports the operation of the planning system. The framework is shown and described below.

Primary Legislation

The primary legislation establishes the framework of planning instruments that supports the operation of the planning system. The new Planning Act removes the complexity of the previous legislation and make the planning system fairer, more open and transparent, and easier to navigate for all Queenslanders

Subordinate legislation

This complements the principal legislation. The Planning Regulation 2017 supports the machinery of the Act and complements the principal legislation.

State planning instruments

These instruments set out the state and regional planning interests critical to responsible land-use planning and development across Queensland. Councils must consider the interests that apply to their areas when preparing and implementing their planning schemes.

Local planning instruments

These instruments are created by local governments, with input from their communities, to guide growth, development and changes in their area.

Statutory instruments

These mandatory instruments ensure the process is consistent and the community has certainty on when they can get involved. How local plans are made and changed is outlined in the Minister's Guidelines and Rules, and the process for assessing development applications is found in the Development Assessment Rules. The State Development Assessment Provisions contain the criteria (through state codes) that the state uses to assess development applications.

***Planning Act 2016,
Planning and Environment Court Act 2016***

Planning Regulation 2017

State Planning Policy

Regional plans

Local planning schemes

**Local government
infrastructure plans**

**Temporary local
planning instrument**

Planning scheme policy

**Minister's Guidelines
and Rules**

Development Assessment Rules

State Development Assessment Provisions

