



# ***Community participation plan***

## ***Information session***

***Nathan Laird***  
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*Department of Planning and Environment*

## Objectives

- Updates to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) came into force on 1 March 2018
- A key objective is to build community confidence through enhanced community participation
- A key tool for delivering this is the community participation plan





## ***Why is community participation important?***

- Builds community confidence in the planning system
- Provides access to community knowledge, ideas and expertise
- Creates a shared sense of purpose, direction and understanding of the need to manage growth and change, while protecting the natural environment and preserving local character





## *Which planning functions are covered by the CPP?*

- **Regulatory frameworks**

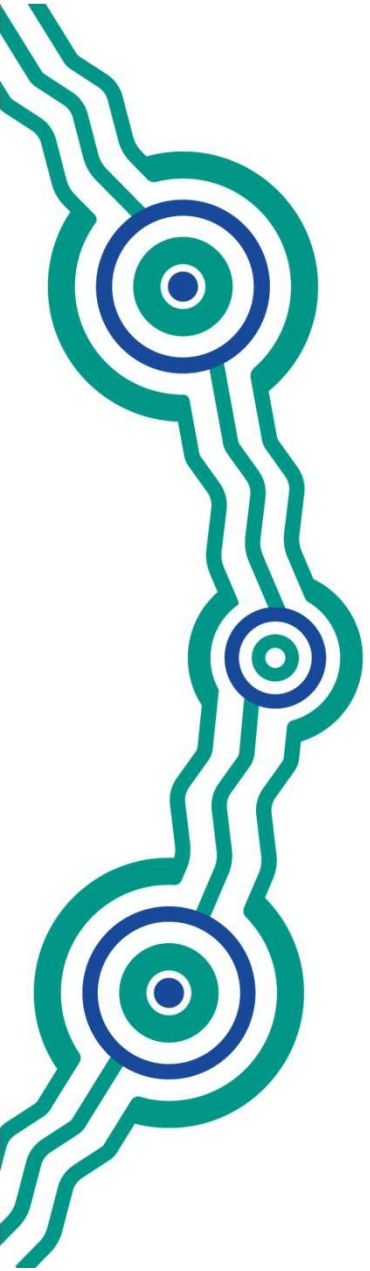
- State Environmental Planning Policies, policy discussion and options papers, codes, guidelines and practice notes

- **Plan making**

- Regional and district plans, standard instrument orders, development control plans, contribution plans and plans for urban renewal areas

- **Assessments**

- Residential developments, port facilities, mining developments, energy generating facilities, transport and social infrastructure projects



## ***Who does the Department's CPP apply to?***

The Department's CPP applies to the determination functions of:

- the Minister for Planning
- the Planning Secretary
- the Department.

## *How have we regarded the community participation principles?*

- Open
- Transparent
- Easy
- Relevant
- Timely
- Meaningful



# Alignment of our Objectives to the Community Participation Principles?

## The Department's community participation objectives

Community participation is open and inclusive

Community participation is easy

Community participation is relevant

Community participation is timely

Community participation is meaningful

## Community Participation Principles in the EP&A Act

The community has a right to be informed about planning matters that affect it.

Planning authorities should encourage effective and on-going partnerships with the community to provide meaningful opportunities for community participation in planning.

Planning information should be in plain language, easily accessible and in a form that facilitates community participation in planning.

The community should be given opportunities to participate in strategic planning as early as possible to enable community views to be genuinely considered.

Community participation should be inclusive and planning authorities should actively seek views that are representative of the community.

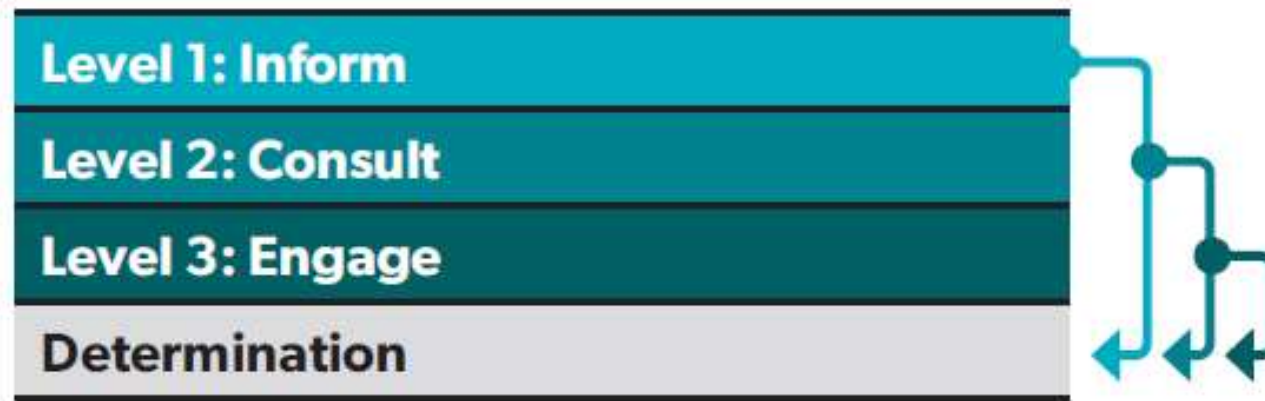
Members of the community who are affected by proposed major development should be consulted by the proponent before an application for planning approval is made.

Planning decisions should be made in an open and transparent way and the community should be provided with reasons for those decisions (including how community views have been taken into account).

Community participation methods (and the reasons given for planning decisions) should be appropriate having regard to the significance and likely impact of the proposed development.



## *What is our approach to community participation?*



## ○ **How and when will exhibitions occur?**

- A key technique we use to encourage community participation is formal exhibitions
- Schedule 1 of the EP&A Act sets a minimum exhibition timeframes for some planning functions, these can be expanded
- The exhibition timeframes in Schedule 1 can be exceeded

Planning function	Timeframe
Draft community participation plan	28 days
Application for development consent	14 days
Draft Legislation, regulation, policies and guidelines	28 days based on the urgency, scale and nature of the proposal



## ***Who else needs to prepare a CPP?***

- All NSW planning authorities will need to prepare a CPP including:
  - Councils
  - the Independent Planning Commission
  - Greater Sydney Commission
  - part 5 determining authorities.

## ***Specific information for Councils***

- A council's CPP is to apply to the determination roles undertaken by their district, regional and local planning panels.
- A council does not need to prepare a CPP if it satisfies the CPP requirements in its plan or strategies under section 402 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- Where a council updates an existing engagement strategy or plan document it will need to :
  - Have regard to the community participation principles set out in the EP&A Act.
  - Include a list of the council's planning functions and the minimum mandatory exhibition timeframes for each. The table in our CPP on page 13 can be used as a template.
  - Put this document on public exhibition for 28 days.



## **Information for part 5 determining authorities**

Part 5 determining authorities may not need to prepare a CPP as the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 provides that infrastructure requiring an EIS is generally declared to be State Significant Infrastructure (SSI). For SSI, determination is made by the Minister for Planning and as a result the Department's CPP will apply.





## ***What is next?***

- Following public exhibition the Department will consider, analyse and respond to community submissions and finalise our CPP
- Following the publication of the Department's CPP, focus will shift to the state-wide rollout of CPPs
- The Department will assist planning authorities with the development of their CPP's by providing guidance, an online toolkit and educational resources
- For assistance can be provided by contacting the team at [legislativeupdates@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:legislativeupdates@planning.nsw.gov.au)

**Contact:**

**[legislativeupdates@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:legislativeupdates@planning.nsw.gov.au)**

