

State Planning Policy

27 July 2015

FACTSHEET

The State Planning Policy (SPP) is a key component of Queensland's land use planning system, which enables responsible development and allows communities to be liveable, sustainable and prosperous.

The SPP provides a comprehensive set of principles which underpin Queensland's planning system to guide local governments and the state government in land use planning and development assessment.

The SPP was introduced in December 2013 to replace a number of policies and provides a clear, consolidated and comprehensive view of the state's interests in land use planning and development in one place.

The SPP provides clarity for local governments by identifying the state interests they must consider when preparing or amending local planning schemes and, in some cases, assessing development applications.

The policy assists local governments to reflect and balance state interests up front, ensuring the approval of the right development in the right location without undue delays.

The SPP also sets out the matters that must be considered by the state before designating land for community infrastructure and in preparing and amending regional plans.



The SPP includes 16 state interests arranged under five broad themes

Who uses the SPP?

The SPP provides the tools to empower and support local governments in making the right planning decisions for their community. Rather than mandate prescriptive processes, the SPP has a strong emphasis on finding solutions which are regionally, locally and site appropriate. It does this by outlining what outcomes must be achieved in relation to state interests, while enabling local government to determine how best to do this for their particular community.

Local governments use the SPP when:

- making a new planning scheme
- amending an existing planning scheme
- undertaking development assessment for certain types of development or developments in certain areas where the SPP has not yet been integrated into the relevant local planning scheme. In these instances the interim development assessment provisions apply.

Applicants use the SPP when:

- preparing applications for certain types of development or in certain areas where the SPP has not yet been integrated into the relevant local planning scheme. In these instances the interim development assessment provisions apply.

State government use the SPP when:

- making a new regional plan or amending an existing regional plan
- designating land for community infrastructure by a Minister

The SPP can also be used by the planning Minister when a process under the planning Act requires the identification of relevant state interests, such as Ministerial call-ins, Ministerial directions and the joining of the state in an appeal (or similar).

General public use the SPP:

- to better understand the state government's policies

Guidance material, including guidelines, policies, fact sheets, mapping and other materials is available from www.dilgp.qld.gov.au to support the implementation of the SPP.

Interim development assessment provisions

Some of the state interests include development assessment requirements for certain applications. These development assessment requirements apply only if the local planning scheme has not yet been appropriately integrated into the SPP. This will usually occur when the preparation of a local planning scheme preceded the SPP or subsequent amendments to the SPP.

What is the SPP Interactive Mapping System?

The SPP Interactive Mapping System provides a visual representation of the policies or requirements associated with some state interests. Some of the mapping is guidance material while other mapping is policy that needs to be considered in local government plan making and development assessment. The data in the mapping system provides a trigger for local government to investigate and consider the relevant

interests and does not automatically preclude development. The mapping draws on information from a range of government sources and agencies and will be refined and updated over time to provide a data set for local governments and stakeholders to use.

Guidance and supporting material

Each of the 16 state interests in the SPP is supported by a state interest guideline to assist the implementation of the policy. Each guideline follows a consistent structure to provide advice on:

- core concepts underpinning the state interest
- how to integrate the state interest into planning schemes
- when to apply the interim development assessment requirements (where necessary)

In addition, guidelines incorporate model planning scheme provisions and codes to assist local governments in integrating the state interests when making or amending a planning scheme. The use of guidance material is optional - it does not form a statutory component of the SPP. Guidance material will be updated from time to time and are located at <http://www.dilgp.qld.gov.au/planning/state-planning-instruments/state-planning-policy-guidance-material.html>

How did we get here?

The SPP was developed following formal consultation and the assessment of more than 320 submissions. The Queensland Government released the SPP for consultation from April to June 2013 and throughout the consultation process, there was strong support for the development of a single state planning policy from all parties. Submissions made on the draft SPP provided valuable feedback and advice that shaped the final product.

To align with the new Environmental Offsets Framework and other government priorities, draft SPP amendments were released for public consultation from 1 May to 30 May 2014. Amendments were finalised and became effective on 1 July 2014. The current SPP is cited as SPP July 2014.

Further information

More information can be obtained by contacting:
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