



24 November 2017

Ms Alison Frame
Deputy Secretary, Policy, Strategy and Governance
Department of Planning and Environment
PO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attn: Planning Legislation Updates Team: regulation.review@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Alison,

PIA Submission on Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation Review

The Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) appreciates the opportunity to provide input towards the review of the Regulation.

PIA understands that the Department is interested in identifying the key issues, and will be seeking more detailed input in due course. As a result, our submission is based on an online survey of PIA members to a range of questions on the performance and coverage of the Regulation. The results from around 30 professional planner respondents are included in the attachment.

An overview of the survey results highlights the following:

- Simplifying while maintaining clarity remains a key goal
- Development assessment and consent (for local development and CDCs) followed by environmental assessment and plan making are the aspects with the greatest potential for reform to improve efficiency
- Need for clarity over the interpretation of 'stop the clock' for DAs
- An increased focus on compliance follow through
- Streamlining the referrals process
- Requiring digital DA lodgement, tracking and opportunity for testing against a digital code
- Need for clarity on role/timing of steps in planning proposal preparation and consideration
- Format consistency of DCPs while allowing for innovation and place relevance
- Requirements for notice of determination broadly supported
- Need to manage extent of discretionary assessment by certifiers
- Support for access to EIA documentation and publication of all relevant assessment criteria and guidelines
- Adoption of Voluntary Planning Agreement policies by councils
- A role for Planning Panels to set assessment timeframes

Please contact myself or our Principal Policy Officer John Brockhoff (0400 953 025) on any aspect of our submission. Our members look forward to contributing to the review of the Regulation and the implementation of the new Act in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Rudolph
President, PIA NSW

Attachment: PIA EP&A Regulation Review Survey Results