

Amendments to Minister's Guidelines and Rules

The Minister's Guidelines and Rules (MGR) sets out rules and processes for a range of activities, including local government plan-making, local government infrastructure plans (LGIPs) and Ministerial and local government infrastructure designations.

The Queensland Government has made changes to:

- the process for Ministerial and Local Government infrastructure designations environmental assessment and consultation for Ministerial and Local Government infrastructure designations
- clarify the process for local governments to make interim amendments to their LGIPs
- include additional pathways for a local government to review and amend their LGIP.

Consultation was undertaken for 20 business days from 7 July 2020 to 8 August 2020 on the proposed changes to the MGR. The proposed MGR amendments received general support from consultation with the community, local government and industry. Changes to the following requirements have been made to reflect consultation feedback.

Overview of Amendments



Ministerial and local government infrastructure designations

The changes streamline some of the processes for the Minister and Local Governments to enable the delivery of critical infrastructure, such as schools and hospitals, at a time when job creation is a high priority.

The changes will provide clarity to the community and infrastructure entities about how this process is undertaken.

The MID process is set out across the Planning Act 2016, the MGR and guidance documents. Changes have been made to ensure the MGR component contains what it is permitted to include under the Planning Act – which is the process for environmental assessment and consultation.

To support infrastructure entities and the community understand the MID process, new operational guidelines on the 'end to end' assessment process are available. The guidelines provide the preliminary considerations for considering if a MID is appropriate for proposed infrastructure.



Interim amendments for local government infrastructure plans

The changes clarify the process for an interim LGIP amendment. This process allows for particular types of amendments to occur in a more streamlined way providing flexibility to local government to update their LGIPs to reflect changing circumstances. This will ensure local governments are able to more effectively and frequently make updates to LGIPs in line with planning scheme amendments.

In response to consultation feedback, the changes to the MGR include additional options for a local government to review and amend their LGIP.

The MGR process for reviewing an LGIP has been amended to provide additional pathways for a local government to review and amend their LGIP following the 5 -yearly review. These amendments are particularly timely, as many local governments across the state will soon need to commence undertaking the 5 year review of their LGIP and may need to respond differently than they otherwise might have due to the effects of COVID-19 on the local government area.

The diagram gives an overview of the pathways that will be available under the new MGR for making or amending an LGIP.

Administrative amendment (Part 1)

For use when making amendments that include any of the 'administrative' matters identified in the MGR.



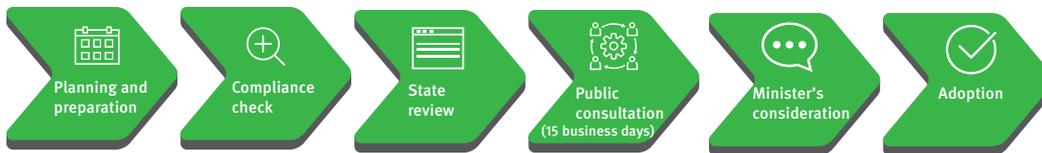
Interim amendment (Part 2)

For use where the amendment is not an amendment in response to a 5 year review and does not propose to reduce the size of, remove an area from, or remove, a PIA.



Amending an LGIP (Part 3)

Process for amending LGIP, that is not an interim amendment or an administrative amendment.



Making an LGIP (Part 4)

Process for making a new LGIP.



Diagram: Overview of the pathways available under the new MGR for making or amending an LGIP