



COMMISSION WELCOMES MINISTER'S STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

14 May 2020

The Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon Rob Stokes MP, has today released his Statement of Expectations for the Independent Planning Commission NSW (IPC).

The [Statement of Expectations \(SoE\)](#) sets new accountability benchmarks for the Commission to ensure greater timeliness and transparency in decision-making, as part of the roll-out of reforms recommended by the NSW Productivity Commission earlier this year. It outlines the timeframes and process for the IPC to issue its planning decisions and advice.

Once the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has finalised a planning assessment and referred it to the IPC, the Commission will be expected to provide:

- a determination within five weeks for projects that do not require a public meeting or public hearing
- a determination within eight weeks for projects subject to a public meeting
- a determination within 12 weeks for projects subject to a public hearing, and
- advice to the Planning Secretary within five weeks for gateway and rezoning reviews.

Acting Chair of the IPC, Mr Peter Duncan AM, has welcomed the Minister's Statement of Expectations.

"The Minister has been very clear in setting these new performance benchmarks what he expects from the Commission as an independent umpire for complex and contentious state significant development across New South Wales: greater timeliness and transparency in its decision-making," Mr Duncan said.

"The Commission will be working hard to meet the Minister's expectations around case-processing times whilst maintaining our steadfast commitment to openness, transparency and procedural fairness.

"We will ensure the community is able to have their say and be heard on matters before the Commission, which is a fundamental part of our planning system; while also providing greater clarity for applicants and proponents around the Commission's processes and timeframes for decisions."

Meanwhile, the Commission has also signed a new [Memorandum of Understanding with the Department](#) to clarify how the two agencies will work together, when required under the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* to interact, in order to exercise their responsibilities with an emphasis on quality, probity, timeliness and transparency.

(END OF STATEMENT)