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THE ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE HEART OF OUR PLANNING SYSTEM – THE TASMANIAN PLANNING COMMISSION

Tasmania's Planning System

Figure 1 depicts Tasmania's resource management and planning system.

This diagram shows the key components of the planning system as they relate to local government, referred to in legislation as the Resource Management and Planning System.

Tasmanian Planning Commission – The Heart of our Planning System

As shown in Figure 1, the heart of Tasmania's planning system is the independent [Tasmanian Planning Commission](#) (TPC).

The TPC performs a range of statutory and advisory functions for land use which together shape Tasmania's future. It also sets down how we, the public, are involved in the resource management and planning decisions/processes.

Also see Table 1 below, which sets out the roles and functions of the TPC.

The TPC ensures that planning balances social, environmental and economic considerations and gives the community a say about planning decisions that affect them. It holds public hearings, it is staffed by experts and we currently have confidence that it is independent from government.

It is the only forum for the community to be heard about their concerns on planning and environmental matters – without needing a lawyer or a body of experts. The TPC gives communities the right to have input into strategic planning matters.

TPC's planning functions include:

- Certify and make decisions on planning schemes and planning scheme amendments e.g. SAPs like Cambria Green, where high-rise would be built.
- Assess and make decisions on combined planning scheme amendments and permit applications e.g. land rezoning for subdivision.
- Assess and report to the Planning Minister on amendments to the State Planning Provisions (SPPs) e.g. residential standards.
- Assess and make decisions on draft Local Provisions Schedules (LPSs) (with Minister's agreement) to convert local planning schemes to the new Tasmanian Planning Scheme.



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- Assess projects of State significance e.g. major projects like Gunns Pulp Mill and Ralphs Bay.
- Assess and approve projects of regional significance.
- Review and hold hearings on representations, and report to Premier on draft State Policies and amendments.
- Amend any planning scheme to be consistent with a State Policy.
- Review, hold hearings and report to Environment Minister on representations on draft reserve management plans and amendments e.g. National Park Management Plans, Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area Management Plan.
- Review, hold hearings and report to Wellington Park Trust on representations on amendments to Wellington Park Management Plan e.g. cable car.
- Inquiries into the future use of public land.



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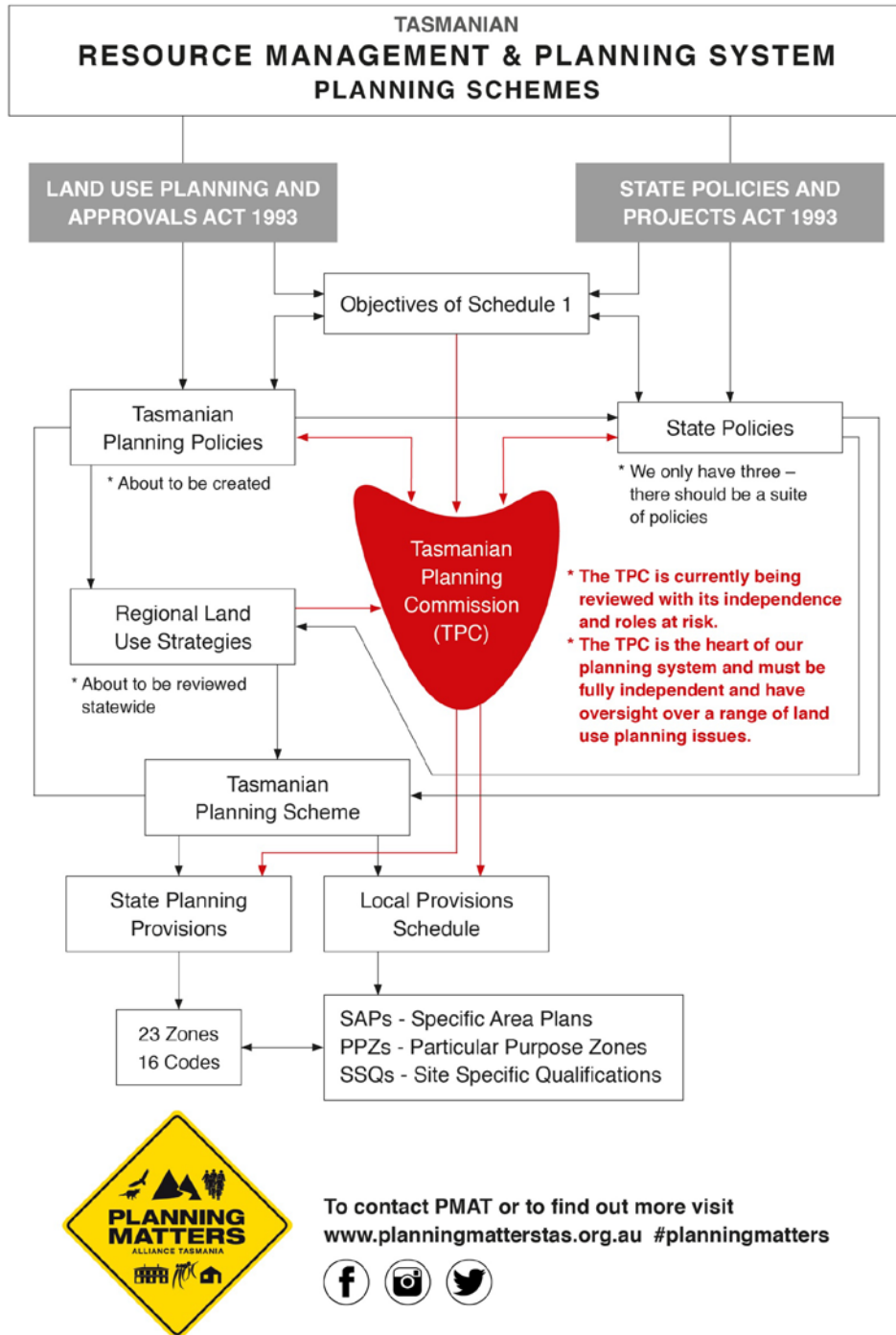


Figure 1 – Tasmania’s resource management and planning system.



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Table 1 - Roles and functions of the Tasmanian Planning Commission.

Role of TPC	Function	Example
<i>Planning – Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</i>		
Draft planning schemes & planning scheme amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certify for public exhibition • Assess and hold hearings on public representations • Decision maker 	E.g. Cambria Green, Westbury Prison
Combined planning scheme amendment and planning permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certify for public exhibition • Assess and hold hearings on public representations • Decision maker 	E.g. rezoning land for subdivision
Planning directives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare or recommend assessment • Assess draft planning directive • Exhibit and hold hearings • Report to the Planning Minister 	E.g. visitor accommodation (AirBNB)
State Planning Provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess • Hold public hearings • Report to Planning Minister 	E.g. residential standards, biodiversity protection
Local Provision Schedules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorise for exhibition • Hold public hearings • Approve with agreement of Planning Minister for first LPS • Approve amendments to an LPS 	E.g. translation of local planning schemes to Tasmanian Planning Scheme
Tasmanian Planning Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and hold hearings on public representations • Report to Planning Minister 	
Projects of regional significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue assessment guidelines • Establish Development Assessment Panel who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exhibits & hold hearings ○ Approves or refuses 	
<i>Co-ordinating role - State Policies and Projects Act 1993</i>		
Draft State Policies and amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Policies • Hold hearings on public representations • Report to Premier • Amend planning schemes to be consistent with State Policy 	State Coastal Policy, Protection of Agricultural Land, Water Quality



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State significant projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct integrated EIS • Hold public hearings • Report to Premier 	Major projects E.g., Ralphs Bay, Pulp Mill
State of the Environment Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Tasmanian State of the Environment report every 5 years • Make recommendations on future action to manage environment 	Tells us how Tasmania's environment is functioning, last report in 2009
Public assets and water review		
Draft national parks and reserve management plans and amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review public representations & hold hearings • Report to Environment Minister 	E.g. amendments to the Freycinet National Park and Tasmanian World Heritage Area Management Plan
Draft Wellington Park Management Plan and amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review public representations & hold hearings • Report to Wellington Park Trust 	E.g. Cable Car
Draft water management plans and amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review public representations & hold hearings • Report to Water Minister 	
Inquire into use of public land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where referred by Environment Minister • Can request reference • Inquiry including public hearings • Report to Environment Minister 	
Housing Land Supply Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend planning scheme to give effect to Order where directed 	E.g. Huntingfield in southern Tasmania.