

# Regional Landscape and Open Space Advisory Committee

## Terms of Reference

### Background

The Regional Landscape and Open Space Advisory Committee (the Committee) was established in its current form following the gazettal of the draft South East Queensland Regional Plan 2005-2026. As such, it replaced committees convened to assist in the implementation of a succession of *Regional Framework For Growth Management* documents since 1995. The Plan was reviewed in 2009 and the Committee was again recognised retained its coordination and advice function (p154 SEQ RP 2009-2031)

### Purpose

The Committee was prescribed under Part G: Implementation and Monitoring of the Plan to “provide specialist advice ... about the Regional Plan” (p.123). Since then, the functions of the Office of Urban Management have been assumed by the Department of Infrastructure and Planning, in support of the regional planning Minister.

### Scope

*Regional landscape values* and *regional landscape areas* are defined in the Plan under Desired Regional Outcome 3 - Regional Landscape. These include lands with one or more of the following regional landscape, rural production or other non-urban values:

- State or regional nature conservation significance;
- regional ecosystems that are endangered or of concern;
- national park, conservation park, resource reserve, or other conservation area;
- Koala Conservation Area and other major koala habitat;
- Good Quality Agricultural Land and other productive rural areas;
- natural economic resources;
- water catchments, water storages and groundwater resources;
- native forests;
- coastal wetlands; and
- land forming strategic and regionally significant inter-urban breaks.

The Committee is to provide advice in relation to “regional landscape”, “regional open space”, “community greenspace”, regional landscape management and implementation of DRO 3 Regional Landscape, specifically:

1. Regional Landscape values of:
  - Scenic amenity
  - Outdoor recreation
  - Landscape heritage (Indigenous and non-Indigenous)
  - Nature Conservation
2. Regional landscape areas including:
  - Inter-urban breaks
  - Landscape corridors
3. Regional landscape implementation including tools and mechanisms concerned with:
  - Regional Open Space Network (or regional greenspace network)
  - Greenspace planning in the Urban Footprint
  - Ecosystem services
  - Peri-urbanism
  - Environmental infrastructure
  - Natural resource management
  - Regional recreation trails
  - Rural precinct planning
  - Environmental Offsets

4. Existing strategies of core interest to the Committee include:

- SEQ Outdoor Recreation Strategy
- Queensland Outdoor Recreation Strategic Framework
- SEQ Rural Futures Strategy
- SEQ Infrastructure and Planning Program
- SEQ Natural Resource Management Plan
- Queensland Greenspace Strategy
- SEQ Active Trails Strategy
- SEQ State of Region Report
- SEQ Ecosystem Services Framework

## Functions

The functions of the Committee are, in relation to the planning, implementation and monitoring of the regional landscape and regional open space in the South East Queensland Region to:

- provide a forum for discussion about and resolution of issues;
- ensure that the community of interests are served by the planning activities;
- examine issues of importance impacting on the regional landscape
- facilitate the sharing of information and resources by and between member organisations;
- examine research priority needed to inform regional landscape planning;
- identify gaps and ways of addressing issues of importance;
- recommend to member organisations projects and activities of regional significance;
- manage/coordinate/monitor projects of regional significance;
- make recommendations on the implementation and review of the SEQ Regional Plan;
- inform members of relevant planning issues and initiatives of State and local government or members of the Committee.;
- provide advice to the Department of Infrastructure and Planning;
- participate in regional coordination forums established under the SEQ Regional Plan
- participate in the reviews of the SEQ Regional Plan

## Organisation

The Committee comprises:

- an independent Chair, appointed by the regional planning Minister;
- State agencies with representatives nominated by the relevant Directors General;
- representatives of the Council of Mayors (SEQ);
- representatives of relevant nongovernment organisations;
- representatives of community organisations; and
- representatives of relevant professional bodies or institutes.

Representatives shall be determined annually. Organisations may nominate for observer status at any time, with approval at the discretion of the Committee. Administrative support and costs shall be met by the Department of Infrastructure and Planning. Nongovernment representatives may claim travelling, parking and other out of pocket expenses. There shall be no sitting fees.

## Procedure

- The Committee shall be represented in public by the Chair. The Chair also provides the advice of the Committee to the Department of Infrastructure and Planning.
- The Committee is to nominate a deputy Chair to represent or act should the Chair be temporarily absent or unavailable.
- The agenda for each meeting shall be agreed by the Chair, but there shall be provision for the raising of additional items from the floor of a meeting.
- Where possible, decisions of the Committee should be based on consensus. However, where this is impractical, a majority shall comprise half of the representatives present plus one, with the Chair having a casting vote. Decisions of the Committee will be minuted, and circulated to members within ten working days of a meeting.
- A quorum shall comprise one State Government, one local government and two nongovernment representatives plus the Chair.