



The Hon Sonya Kilkeny MP

Minister for Planning

GPO Box 4356
Melbourne, Victoria 3001 Australia

Ref: BMIN-1-25-5329

Ms Sarah Carlisle
Chief Panel Member
Planning Panels Victoria
1 Spring Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Ms Carlisle

APPOINTMENT OF THE MACAULAY STRUCTURE PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER MELBOURNE PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C417MELB (MACAULAY STRUCTURE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION)

I refer to Melbourne Planning Scheme Amendment C417melb, which proposes to implement the Macaulay Structure Plan and Development Contributions Plan.

Between 1 August and 10 September 2024, the amendment was exhibited by the Melbourne City Council. The council received 63 submissions from residents and community members, development interest groups, community groups, and government and referral authorities. The council considered the submissions and endorsed changes to the draft amendment in response to submissions on 2 December 2025.

As you may be aware, the City of Melbourne forms part of the Inner Melbourne Train and Tram Zone which was announced by the Victorian Government earlier this year as part of the expansion of the Train and Tram Zone Activity Centres Program. The program aims to enable the delivery of more homes close to services, jobs and transport and support councils to implement their housing targets.

To support the timely resolution of new planning controls for Macaulay, I have decided to appoint the Macaulay Structure Plan Advisory Committee under section 151 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Copies of the terms of reference and instrument of appointment are enclosed for your action.

The purpose of the advisory committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the suitability of proposed planning provisions for Macaulay.

Referral of specific matters

I have decided to refer specific matters to the advisory committee for consideration. The specific matters are consistent with the key issues identified by the council in its review of submissions. The committee only needs to consider submissions and the council's response to the extent that they address referred matters. A copy of the referral is enclosed.

I am satisfied that advice from the committee is not required on the following:

- Whether the Precinct Zone and Built Form Overlay are the appropriate Victoria Planning Provisions tools to guide built form and land use outcomes in Macaulay.
- Whether the planning provisions to deliver affordable housing should be mandatory.
- Whether the proposed planning provisions should include floor area uplift.
- Funding and delivery of flood mitigation infrastructure.
- Whether Melbourne Water should be a determining referral authority for all land in Macaulay.
- Matters considered under the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018* and the *Pipelines Act 2005*.

Precinct Zone and Built Form Overlay

New planning tools were introduced into the Victoria Planning Provisions in 2025 to support growth and change in and around activity centres and other well-serviced locations.

I have directed the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) to prepare draft Precinct Zone and Built Form Overlay schedules for the advisory committee's consideration, having regard to the exhibited Special Use Zone and Design and Development Overlay schedules. The draft schedules will be circulated by DTP to submitters by no later than 30 January 2026.

Hearing dates

I note the following pre-set hearing dates:

- Directions hearing: 16 February 2026
- Public hearings: Week commencing 7 April 2026

I request that the advisory committee submit its report on this matter within 30 business days of the completion of its hearing or by no later than 29 May 2026.

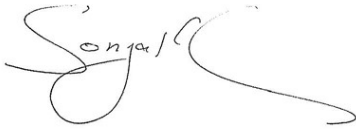
DTP will liaise with PPV to write to all submitters advising of the appointment of the committee and the above direction and committee hearing dates.

I can confirm that DTP will meet the cost of the advisory committee.

Please find enclosed the amendment documents, the submissions received by the council and the council's response to the submissions for your consideration.

If you would like more information about this matter, please email Stuart Menzies, Executive Director, State Planning Policy, DTP, at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonya Kilkenny', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

The Hon Sonya Kilkenny MP
Minister for Planning

Date: 22/12/2025

Enc.

- Macaulay Structure Plan Advisory Committee Terms of Reference
- Specific matters for referral
- Draft amendment documents
- Submissions
- Melbourne City Council's response to submissions