

<b>Circular Details</b>	Circular No 19-16 / 06 August 2019 / A653804
<b>Previous Circular</b>	15-09 Changes to the land acquisition process for acquiring authorities in NSW and Department of Finance, Services and Innovation Circular DFSI-2017-02-Improvements to NSW Land Acquisition Processes
<b>Who should read this</b>	Councillors/General Managers/Staff and Consultants involved in the compulsory acquisition of land by Councils.
<b>Contact</b>	Performance Team - 02 4428 4100
<b>Action required</b>	Councils will need to comply with the new requirements for the compulsory acquisition of land.

## **New Property Acquisition Standards to apply immediately to all acquiring authorities in New South Wales, including all general purpose and county councils**

### **What's new or changing**

- The Department of Finance, Services and Innovation (DFSI) has produced revised Property Acquisition Standards, that apply to all acquiring authorities in NSW, including General Purpose and County Councils
- The objectives of the revised Property Acquisitions Standards are to:-
  - establish key requirements for all agencies that undertake acquisitions under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*;
  - commit all acquiring authorities to improving the experience of property owners when dealing with the compulsory acquisition of their land; and
  - increase the consistency and transparency of the compulsory acquisition process, across all acquiring authorities.

### **What this will mean for your council**

- The Property Acquisition Standards, establish the key requirements for all agencies to comply with, when undertaking acquisitions under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*.
- The Property Acquisition Standards apply to all general purpose and county councils as they do to other acquiring authorities in NSW.
- Council staff and consultants engaged by councils who are involved in the acquisition of land, should be made aware of these revised Property Acquisition Standards.
- Councils must apply these changes to future acquisitions.

### **Key points**

- Council staff and consultants undertaking the acquisition of land, should review their current processes to ensure they comply with the revised Property Acquisition Standards.

- When making an application for approval to acquire land under the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991*, Council's will need to be able to provide evidence they have complied with the revised Property Acquisition Standards, for acquisitions where the Standards apply.

#### **Where to go for further information**

- A copy of the Property Acquisition Standards are available from the DFSI website.
- Refer to CircularDFSI-2019-03 at the following link <https://arp.nsw.gov.au/dfsi-2019-03-property-acquisition-standards>
- Information and resources to assist acquiring authorities in compliance with the revised Standards will be available on the Centre for Property Acquisition's practitioner portal. Contact [info@propertyacquisition.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@propertyacquisition.nsw.gov.au) for access to the portal.
- Council enquiries about the Standards should be directed to the Centre for Property Acquisition at [info@propertyacquisition.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@propertyacquisition.nsw.gov.au).



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