



Local government resolutions

The new plumbing laws come into effect on 1 July 2019.

It is recommended that any local government seeking to make a resolution does so in advance of the commencement date.

This factsheet informs local governments of their ability to tailor the application of the plumbing and drainage laws to meet the needs of their communities.

Fast-track work declaration for a local government area—s39(1) of the Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2019 (PDR 2019)

Local governments can expand the types of permit work that can be performed under the fast-track model in their areas. By resolution, local governments can make a fast-track work declaration that transfers standard application work to the fast track application process.

The following standard application work cannot be transferred to the fast-track application process:

- Combined sanitary drainage or a water supply system or drainage system installed as part of a community title scheme.
- Trade waste connection.
- On-site sewage facility.

Fast-track opt-out declaration for local government area—section 40(1) of the PDR 2019

Local governments may, by resolution, make a fast-track opt-out declaration. After a declaration is made, all permit applications will be assessed under the standard application process.

This provides local governments, particularly regional councils, with flexibility to choose the approval model that best suits their available resources. Local government may, at a later date and 'by resolution', choose to opt back in to the fast-track model.

Local government declarations about remote areas and eligible work—section 71 of the PDR

The PDR 2019 allows the smaller, regional local governments, referred to in schedule 7 to make a **remote area declaration** that nominates remote parts of their areas where permit work will not be inspected. Instead of inspecting the work, the local governments may accept a *Form 6—Remote area compliance notice* from the responsible person for the work or another suitably qualified person. The notice certifies that the work is compliant, operational and fit for use.

Local governments must also:

- publish each remote area declaration on its website.
- give the chief executive a copy of the declaration.
- ensure the remote area declaration may be inspected, free of charge, at the local government's public office.
- ensure each remote area declaration includes a map identifying the remote area.

