



QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT **COMMITTEES**

**Report on subordinate legislation tabled between 25 June 2025 and
26 August 2025**

Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee



Report No. 6

58th Parliament, November 2025

Overview

This report summarises the committee's findings following its examination of the subordinate legislation within its portfolio areas tabled between 25 June 2025 and 26 August 2025. It reports on any issues identified by the committee relating to the policy to be given effect by the legislation, fundamental legislative principles and lawfulness. It also reports on the compliance of the explanatory notes with the *Legislative Standards Act 1992* (LSA).¹

The report also notes any issues identified by the committee in its consideration of compliance with the *Human Rights Act 2019* (HRA)² and the human rights certificates tabled with the subordinate legislation.³

Subordinate legislation examined

No. of 2025	Subordinate legislation	Date tabled	Disallowance date*
64	Water Amendment Regulation 2025	26 August 2025	20 November 2025
95	Water Plan (Pioneer Valley) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025	26 August 2025	20 November 2025
96	Water Plan (Fitzroy Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025	26 August 2025	20 November 2025
97	Water Plan (Burdekin Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025	26 August 2025	20 November 2025
98	Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025	26 August 2025	20 November 2025
99	Water Plan (Calliope River Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025	26 August 2025	20 November 2025
100	Water Plan (Boyne River Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025	26 August 2025	20 November 2025

* Disallowance dates are based on proposed sitting dates as advised by the Leader of the House. These dates are subject to change.

¹ *Legislative Standards Act 1992*, Part 4. See also, LSA s 4.

² *Human Rights Act 2019*, s 8, 13.

³ *Human Rights Act 2019*, s 41.

Committee consideration of the subordinate legislation

Committee Comment



The committee did not identify any issues regarding the policy, consistency with fundamental legislative principles, the lawfulness of the subordinate legislation or non-compliance with the HRA.

Similarly, the committee considers that the explanatory notes tabled with the subordinate legislation noted in this report comply with the requirements of section 24 of the LSA, which includes advice about consultation, and that the human rights certificates tabled with the subordinate legislation provide a sufficient level of information to facilitate understanding of the subordinate legislation in relation to their compatibility with the HRA.

1 SL No. 64 of 2025 - Water Amendment Regulation 2025

The Water Amendment Regulation 2025 (SL No. 64) amends the Water Regulation 2016 to:

- prescribe 2 businesses (Elanda Point Pty Ltd and Tangalooma Island Resort Pty Ltd) as prescribed entities to allow them to hold a water licence that is not attached to land, ensuring continued lawful access to water for their operations⁴
- modernise public notification requirements for water allocation dealing applications by allowing the chief executive to publish the notice directly on a Queensland Government website⁵
- make technical amendments (including updating references and correcting minor errors relating to measurements).⁶

2 SL No. 95 - Water Plan (Pioneer Valley) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025

Under the *Water Act 2000*, the Minister may postpone the expiry of a water plan from time to time for periods up to 3 years if the Minister is preparing a replacement water plan.⁷

To postpone the expiry of a water plan, the Minister must publish a notice of the new expiry date in the Queensland Government Gazette.⁸ Such a notice is subordinate legislation.⁹

The Water Plan (Pioneer Valley) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025 (SL No. 95) postpones the expiry of the Water Plan (Pioneer Valley) 2002 to 30 April 2027.

⁴ SL No. 64, explanatory notes, pp 2-3.

⁵ The current process requires the chief executive to provide the applicant for a water allocation dealing with a notice that states the period and the way the information must be published. According to the explanatory notes, the amendments 'will streamline the process for the applicant and align with the process for public notification of a water licence dealing under the *Water Act 2000*.' SL No. 64; explanatory notes, p 1. See also Water Regulation, ss 63, 64.

⁶ SL No. 64, explanatory notes, pp 1-2.

⁷ *Water Act 2000*, s 55.

⁸ The Minister published the requisite notice in the Queensland Government Gazette on 15 August 2025. See p 720.

⁹ *Water Act 2000*, s 56.

The Water Plan (Pioneer Valley) 2002 was originally due to expire on 1 September 2013, but its expiry was previously postponed (in 2014, to 20 December 2022 and in 2022, to 30 September 2025).¹⁰

The explanatory notes state that the postponement in SL No. 95:

... will ensure that the effect of the water plan continues the existing water management framework, which in turn protects the existing water entitlements and the needs of the environment until a replacement plan comes into effect.¹¹

3 SL No. 96 - Water Plan (Fitzroy Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025

As noted above, under the *Water Act 2000*, the Minister may postpone the expiry of a water plan from time to time for periods up to 3 years if the Minister is preparing a replacement water plan.¹²

To postpone the expiry of a water plan, the Minister must publish a notice of the new expiry date in the Queensland Government Gazette.¹³ Such a notice is subordinate legislation.¹⁴

The Water Plan (Fitzroy Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025 (SL No. 96) postpones the expiry of the Water Plan (Fitzroy Basin) 2011 to 30 June 2028.

The Water Plan (Fitzroy Basin) 2011 was originally due to expire on 1 September 2022, but its expiry was previously postponed (in 2022, to 30 August 2025).¹⁵

The explanatory notes state that the postponement in SL No. 96:

... will ensure that the effect of the water plan continues the existing water management framework, which in turn protects the existing water entitlements and the needs of the environment until a replacement plan comes into effect.¹⁶

4 SL No. 97 - Water Plan (Burdekin Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025

As noted above, under the *Water Act 2000*, the Minister may postpone the expiry of a water plan from time to time for periods up to 3 years if the Minister is preparing a replacement water plan.¹⁷

¹⁰ Section 53 of the *Water Act 2000* provides that a water plan expires on 1 September first occurring after the 10th anniversary of the day it was approved by the Governor in Council unless it is sooner repealed or the Minister postpones the expiry. See also *Water Act 2000*, ss 55, 56; Water Resource (Pioneer Valley) Plan (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2014 and Water Plan (Pioneer Valley) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2022.

¹¹ SL No. 95, explanatory notes, p 1.

¹² *Water Act 2000*, s 55.

¹³ The Minister published the requisite notice in the Queensland Government Gazette on 15 August 2025. See pp 720-722.

¹⁴ *Water Act 2000*, s 56.

¹⁵ Section 53 of the *Water Act 2000* provides that a water plan expires on 1 September first occurring after the 10th anniversary of the day it was approved by the Governor in Council unless it is sooner repealed or the Minister postpones the expiry. See also *Water Act 2000*, ss 55, 56; Water Plan (Fitzroy Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2022.

¹⁶ SL No. 96, explanatory notes, p 1.

¹⁷ *Water Act 2000*, s 55.

To postpone the expiry of a water plan, the Minister must publish a notice of the new expiry date in the Queensland Government Gazette.¹⁸ Such a notice is subordinate legislation.¹⁹

The Water Plan (Burdekin Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025 (SL No. 97) postpones the expiry of the Water Plan (Burdekin Basin) 2007 to 31 March 2028.

The Water Plan (Burdekin Basin) 2007 was originally due to expire on 1 September 2017, but its expiry was previously postponed (in 2017, to 1 September 2019, in 2019, to 1 September 2023 and in 2023, to 1 September 2026).²⁰

The explanatory notes state that the postponement in SL No. 97:

... will ensure that the effect of the water plan continues the existing water management framework, which in turn protects the existing water entitlements and the needs of the environment until a replacement plan comes into effect.²¹

5 SL No. 98 - Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025

As noted above, under the *Water Act 2000*, the Minister may postpone the expiry of a water plan from time to time for periods up to 3 years if the Minister is preparing a replacement water plan.²²

To postpone the expiry of a water plan, the Minister must publish a notice of the new expiry date in the Queensland Government Gazette.²³ Such a notice is subordinate legislation.²⁴

The Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025 (SL No. 98) postpones the expiry of the Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan 2010 to 30 September 2028.

The Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan 2010 was originally due to expire on 1 September 2020, but its expiry was previously postponed (in 2020, to 1 December 2025).²⁵

¹⁸ The Minister published the requisite notice in the Queensland Government Gazette on 15 August 2025. See pp 726-728.

¹⁹ *Water Act 2000*, s 56.

²⁰ Section 53 of the *Water Act 2000* provides that a water plan expires on 1 September first occurring after the 10th anniversary of the day it was approved by the Governor in Council unless it is sooner repealed or the Minister postpones the expiry. See also *Water Act 2000*, ss 54, 55, 56; Water Plan (Burdekin Basin—Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2017; Water Plan (Burdekin Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2019; Water Plan (Burdekin Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2023.

²¹ SL No. 97, explanatory notes, p 1.

²² *Water Act 2000*, s 55.

²³ The Minister published the requisite notice in the Queensland Government Gazette on 15 August 2025. See pp 729-731.

²⁴ *Water Act 2000*, s 56.

²⁵ Section 53 of the *Water Act 2000* provides that a water plan expires on 1 September first occurring after the 10th anniversary of the day it was approved by the Governor in Council unless it is sooner repealed or the Minister postpones the expiry. See also *Water Act 2000*, ss 54, 55, 56; Water Resource (Whitsunday) Plan (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2020.

The explanatory notes state that the postponement in SL No. 98:

... will ensure that the effect of the water plan continues the existing water management framework, which in turn protects the existing water entitlements and the needs of the environment until a replacement plan comes into effect.²⁶

6 SL No. 99 - Water Plan (Calliope River Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025

As noted above, under the *Water Act 2000*, the Minister may postpone the expiry of a water plan from time to time for periods up to 3 years if the Minister is preparing a replacement water plan.²⁷

To postpone the expiry of a water plan, the Minister must publish a notice of the new expiry date in the Queensland Government Gazette.²⁸ Such a notice is subordinate legislation.²⁹

The Water Plan (Calliope River Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025 (SL No. 99) postpones the expiry of the Water Plan (Calliope River Basin) 2006 to 30 June 2028.

The Water Plan (Calliope River Basin) 2006 was originally due to expire on 1 September 2017, but its expiry was previously postponed (in 2017, to 14 December 2026).³⁰

The explanatory notes state that the postponement in SL No. 98:

... will ensure that the effect of the water plan continues the existing water management framework, which in turn protects the existing water entitlements and the needs of the environment until a replacement plan comes into effect.³¹

7 SL No. 100 - Water Plan (Boyne River Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025

As noted above, under the *Water Act 2000*, the Minister may postpone the expiry of a water plan from time to time for periods up to 3 years if the Minister is preparing a replacement water plan.³²

To postpone the expiry of a water plan, the Minister must publish a notice of the new expiry date in the Queensland Government Gazette.³³ Such a notice is subordinate legislation.³⁴

²⁶ SL No. 98, explanatory notes, p 1.

²⁷ *Water Act 2000*, s 55.

²⁸ The Minister published the requisite notice in the Queensland Government Gazette on 15 August 2025. See pp 732-734.

²⁹ *Water Act 2000*, s 56.

³⁰ Section 53 of the *Water Act 2000* provides that a water plan expires on 1 September first occurring after the 10th anniversary of the day it was approved by the Governor in Council unless it is sooner repealed or the Minister postpones the expiry. See also *Water Act 2000*, ss 54, 55, 56; Water Plan (Calliope River Basin—Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2017.

³¹ SL No. 99, explanatory notes, p 1.

³² *Water Act 2000*, s 55.

³³ The Minister published the requisite notice in the Queensland Government Gazette on 15 August 2025. See pp 735-737.

³⁴ *Water Act 2000*, s 56.

The Water Plan (Boyne River Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2025 (SL No. 100) postpones the expiry of the Water Plan (Boyne River Basin) 2013 to 30 June 2028.

The Water Plan (Boyne River Basin) 2013 was originally due to expire on 1 September 2024, but its expiry was previously postponed (in 2024, to 1 December 2026).³⁵

The explanatory notes state that the postponement in SL No. 98:

... will ensure that the effect of the water plan continues the existing water management framework, which in turn protects the existing water entitlements and the needs of the environment until a replacement plan comes into effect.³⁶

Committee Comment



The committee is satisfied that for each of the items of subordinate legislation considered in this report, no issues were identified regarding the policy, consistency with fundamental legislative principles, the lawfulness of the subordinate legislation or non-compliance with the HRA.



Recommendation 1

The committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly note this report.

James Lister MP

Chair

³⁵ Section 53 of the *Water Act 2000* provides that a water plan expires on 1 September first occurring after the 10th anniversary of the day it was approved by the Governor in Council unless it is sooner repealed or the Minister postpones the expiry. See also *Water Act 2000*, ss 54, 55, 56; Water Plan (Boyne River Basin) (Postponement of Expiry) Notice 2024.

³⁶ SL No. 100, explanatory notes, p 1.

Local Government, Small Business and Customer Service Committee

Chair Mr James Lister MP, Member for Southern Downs

Deputy Chair Mrs Margie Nightingale MP, Member for Inala

Members Mr Adam Baillie MP, Member for Townsville

Mr Mark Boothman MP, Member for Theodore

Mr Michael Healy MP, Member for Cairns

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