

Australian Capital Territory

City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (Agency Board Member) Appointment 2020 (No 1)

Disallowable instrument DI2020–166

made under the

City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Act 2017, s 45 (Establishment of governing board for agency)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This explanatory statement relates to the *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (Agency Board Member) Appointment 2020 (No 1)* as made by the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development and presented to the Legislative Assembly. It has been prepared in order to assist the reader of the instrument and to help inform debate on it. It does not form part of the instrument and has not been endorsed by the Legislative Assembly.

Section 37 of the *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Act 2017* (the *Act*) establishes the Suburban Land Agency (the *agency*). Section 45 of the Act establishes the governing board for the agency (the *board*). For the purposes of the *Financial Management Act 1996* (the *FMA*) the agency is a territory authority, and therefore parts 8 and 9 of the FMA apply. Section 78 (7) (b) of the FMA provides that an appointment of a member to a board of a territory authority is an appointment made under the provision of the establishing Act that establishes the governing board. In this case, section 45 of the Act is the relevant provision.

Section 78 of the FMA provides for the appointment of governing boards generally. The Minister with responsibility for a territory authority may appoint members of the authority. The Minister must apply the criteria in section 78 of the FMA and must, as far as practicable, ensure that each discipline and area of expertise mentioned in section 48 (2) of the Act is represented among the appointed members. A member must have knowledge of and experience in at least one of the disciplines and area of expertise prescribed in section 48 (2) of the Act.

This instrument appoints Mr Angus Dawson to be an expert member of the board for the period 23 June 2020 to 22 June 2021.

Mr Dawson has over 35 years' experience in property development and commercial construction. He has worked in senior executive roles in private and public sector organisations in New South Wales, Queensland and the United Kingdom.

In government, as CEO, Mr Dawson has led the NSW Government's delivery of the \$3.45 billion Building the Education Revolution, the Growth Centres Commission and the Honeysuckle Development Corporation.

In the private sector, Mr Dawson established Lansdown Homes, an integrated residential development company in Sydney and Brisbane, and was its first General Manager and later a Director. He was instrumental in bringing the development division of Urban Pacific (formerly Pioneer Homes) to commercial profitability.

Mr Dawson has sat on numerous boards, government selection panels and review committees. These include: the board of the Illawarra Housing Trust, Penrith City Council's Property Development Advisory Panel, the Premier's Urban Design Advisory Committee, the Rouse Hill Town Centre and Barangaroo assessment panels, and the inter-Governmental task force for the acquisition of BHP's land holdings in Newcastle. He is a past president of the NSW division of the Urban Development Institute of Australia.

Section 48 (4) of the Act provides that a member of the board must not be a public servant. Mr Dawson is not a public servant.

Division 19.3.3 of the *Legislation Act 2001* applies as Mr Dawson is not a public servant, is appointed for longer than 6 months and will have functions beyond advising the Minister. In accordance with section 228 of the Legislation Act, the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal has been consulted and noted the appointment. The appointment is a disallowable instrument by operation of section 229 of the Legislation Act.

The instrument is not likely to impose appreciable costs on the community, or part of the community and therefore a regulatory impact statement (a *RIS*) is not required (Legislation Act, section 34), Further, a *RIS* is unnecessary, in accordance with the Legislation Act (section 36 (1) (b)), as the disallowable instrument does not operate to the disadvantage of anyone by adversely affecting the person's rights, or imposing liabilities on the person.

Remuneration for the board is set by determination 13 of 2019 of the ACT Remuneration Tribunal and is met by the agency budget.

The instrument is consistent with the Legislative Assembly's Scrutiny of Bills Committee Terms of Reference. In particular, the instrument:

1. Is made under a ministerial power found in the Act (see section 45 of the Act and section 78 of the FMA).
2. Is in accordance with the general objects of the Act under which it is made. The appointment of members to the board is integral to its operation and achieving the objects of the Act.
3. Does not unduly trespass on rights previously established by law.

4. Does not make rights, liberties and/or obligations unduly dependent on non-reviewable decisions. The instrument enables formal appointment of a member of the board.