

# National Planning Reform Blueprint Metrics Implementation Plan

## Introduction

On 16 August 2023 National Cabinet agreed to a National Planning Reform Blueprint (Blueprint) with planning, zoning, land release and other measures to improve housing supply and affordability. The Blueprint comprises 10 measures and 17 supporting actions.

The Blueprint is part of a package of initiatives governments have announced to support the national target to build 1.2 million well-located homes over five years, from 1 July 2024.

In December 2024, Planning Ministers agreed in principle to a Blueprint metrics framework and tasked Commonwealth Treasury to develop an implementation plan for collecting and synthesising data to support metrics data collection.

Following consultation with jurisdictions a metrics framework has been developed to support twice-yearly reporting of progress against the Blueprint measures. The metrics framework is intended to be a flexible national template to improve understanding of the impacts of the Blueprint on housing supply.

Reporting on metrics recognises variations across planning systems, such as classifications and concepts in regulatory systems, and data availability.

## Purpose and objectives

The metrics framework aims to establish an evidence base for the performance of planning systems and identify the need for further planning reforms, in addition to the Blueprint. The metrics provide informed, realistic and meaningful measures of planning, zoning and land release outcomes over the remainder of the National Housing Accord period. All jurisdictions have undertaken significant planning reforms, and these metrics should demonstrate that planning outcomes have improved since the beginning of the Blueprint. As data is collected for each 6-monthly reporting period, it is anticipated that the full impact of these reforms will become clearer.

Objectives of this implementation plan are to deliver the metric framework by:

- providing a clear and predictable framework for collecting and publishing data
- recognising diversity in planning systems while supporting national reporting
- efficiently collecting and reporting data
- enabling flexibility in reporting based on changed circumstances.

This implementation plan should be read in conjunction with the metrics summary at Attachment 1 and data tables. These documents outline what and how data is collected and the proposed definitions and parameters for the metrics.

## Implementation

A thorough consultation process with jurisdictions has led to the development of a set of metrics (refer below) that will complement the twice annual progress reports. Discussions on the metric framework began in mid-2024 with a formal document prepared for agreement in principle by Planning Ministers in late 2024. Most jurisdictions agreed in principle to continue developing a metrics framework<sup>1</sup>.

Jurisdictions are empowered to provide the data they consider best fits the parameters of the metric and meets their data publication standards. The Commonwealth's role is to collate the input from jurisdictions, include data prepared at the Commonwealth level and prepare papers on the results for Planning Ministers' endorsement prior to publication. The collection of data will be the responsibility of each jurisdiction.

All data included in the metrics will be reviewed by Planning Ministers prior to publication through a Planning Ministers' Meeting process. Planning officials will, in the usual course of business, prepare progress reports and compile data for the metrics to meet the twice annual reporting requirement.

This implementation plan has been prepared for agreement by Planning Ministers along with data collection results and a sample data collection table. With Planning Ministers' agreement, the first iteration of data will be published with the September 2025 progress reports as specified below. The Commonwealth will provide jurisdictions an updated progress report template, along with an empty series of data tables for completion.

Further data collection may be added in the future. Jurisdictions will continue to work during the reporting period to identify additional opportunities for data collection. Any further data points will be presented to Planning Ministers for agreement.

## Timeframe

Expected date	Milestone	Outcome
May 2025	Agreement by jurisdiction planning officials	Planning officials met to discuss the metrics and recommend to Planning Ministers.
August 2025	Planning Ministers agree to Blueprint metrics	Planning Ministers endorse the Blueprint metrics and progress reports for publication.

---

<sup>1</sup> The new Planning Minister in Queensland elected to abstain from the vote, as there was insufficient time to consider the papers before voting was due.

September 2025	End of reporting cycle	The fourth Blueprint reporting cycle ends. This is the first cycle for which Blueprint metrics will be collected.
January 2026	September 2025 Blueprint metrics and progress reports due	The September 2025 progress reports and Blueprint metrics data will be published on Treasury’s website.

## Resolution

The Blueprint was established as part of the National Housing Accord in which the Commonwealth, states, territories, local government, institutional investors and the construction industry agreed to a coordinated approach to addressing housing supply. The Accord originally included a target of 1 million homes over 5 years beginning in mid-2024. This was increased to 1.2 million with agreement of the states and territories.

It is proposed that the reporting on the Blueprint end with the March 2029 progress period. These final reports would be published in the months following, aligning with the June 2029 conclusion of the Accord.

## Summary of metrics

Metric	Description/Purpose	Source
<b>Housing supply</b>		
1	Number of dwellings constructed, under construction, commenced and approved  <i>Measure 3</i>	Commonwealth ABS data Supplemented by States and Territory data where appropriate.
<b>Stocktake of 'development ready' land</b>		
2	Infill capacity estimate  <i>Measure 6, 10</i>	State and territory data sources
3	Greenfield land supply  <i>Measure 6, 10</i>	State and territory data sources
4	Estimated increase to greenfield supply and infill capacity  Changes to housing supply estimates resulting from recent major planning system or zoning changes  To supplement the capacity and greenfield land supply estimates, by highlighting the quantitative impacts of recent planning and zoning reforms  <i>Measure 6, 10</i>	State and territory data sources
<b>Development approval times</b>		
5	Observed median development approval times  <i>Measure 5, 6</i>	States and territories to supply development approval times data. .
6	Range and spread of observed approval times  • Data showing shortest and longest approval timeframes.  • <i>Measure 6</i>	State and territories data
7	Proportion of development approvals within statutory timeframes  • Percentage data for approvals overall <i>Measure 6</i>	State and territory data
<b>Predictability of development approvals</b>		
To complement Metric D, by recognising that lowering risk around planning approvals is often as important as reducing the average timeframes.		
8	Observed or estimated proportion of developments in guaranteed, exempted or equivalent development approval pathways.  Selected state-specific accelerated or streamlined pathways for development approvals <i>Measure 5,6,9</i>	State and territory data, noting variation among planning systems

**Built environment staffing levels**

9	Number of employed urban and regional planners	<i>Measure 8</i>	Commonwealth data
10	Number of urban and regional planning students	<i>Measure 8</i>	Commonwealth data
11	Jobs and Skills Australia Skills priority list	Displaying the annual shortage assessment for Urban and regional planners across each jurisdiction developed by Jobs and Skills Australia for the <a href="#">Skills priority list</a> or equivalent <i>Measure 8</i>	Commonwealth data
12	Local government and decision maker urban planner shortages survey	Jurisdictions engage with local governments on the relative shortages they are experiencing on a biannual basis. Specific to local governments rather than an overall shortage. <i>Measure 8</i>	<i>Treasury to confirm with the Planning Institute of Australia before proceeding</i>

**Inclusionary zoning and similar policies**

For jurisdictions without Inclusionary zoning, reporting would be provided on private developments which include social or affordable housing or have paid fees to support provision of social/affordable housing elsewhere.

Data on social and affordable housing approvals more broadly will be collected for metrics D and E1-3.

13	Number of inclusionary zoning (or equivalent) social and affordable dwellings approved	<i>Measure 6</i>	States and territories to provide data where available
----	--	------------------	--

**Rezoning timeframes**

14	Observed timeframes to rezone land	<i>Measure 6</i>	States and territories to provide data
----	------------------------------------	------------------	--

Blueprint metrics 1 and 7 are being addressed through existing progress reporting or other ministerial councils.