

Government Agencies (Land Acquisition Reporting) Act 2018

A2018-44

Republication No 1

Effective: 1 January 2019 - 30 June 2019

Republication date: 1 January 2019

Act not amended

Not all provisions are in force: see last endnote

About this republication

The republished law

This is a republication of the *Government Agencies* (Land Acquisition Reporting) Act 2018 (including any amendment made under the Legislation Act 2001, part 11.3 (Editorial changes)) as in force on 1 January 2019. It also includes any commencement, repeal or expiry affecting this republished law.

The legislation history and amendment history of the republished law are set out in endnotes 3 and 4.

Kinds of republications

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office prepares 2 kinds of republications of ACT laws (see the ACT legislation register at www.legislation.act.gov.au):

- authorised republications to which the Legislation Act 2001 applies
- unauthorised republications.

The status of this republication appears on the bottom of each page.

Editorial changes

The *Legislation Act 2001*, part 11.3 authorises the Parliamentary Counsel to make editorial amendments and other changes of a formal nature when preparing a law for republication. Editorial changes do not change the effect of the law, but have effect as if they had been made by an Act commencing on the republication date (see *Legislation Act 2001*, s 115 and s 117). The changes are made if the Parliamentary Counsel considers they are desirable to bring the law into line, or more closely into line, with current legislative drafting practice.

This republication does not include amendments made under part 11.3 (see endnote 1).

Uncommenced provisions and amendments

If a provision of the republished law has not commenced, the symbol $\boxed{\textbf{U}}$ appears immediately before the provision heading. Any uncommenced amendments that affect this republished law are accessible on the ACT legislation register (www.legislation.act.gov.au). For more information, see the home page for this law on the register.

Modifications

If a provision of the republished law is affected by a current modification, the symbol **M** appears immediately before the provision heading. The text of the modifying provision appears in the endnotes. For the legal status of modifications, see the *Legislation Act 2001*, section 95.

Penalties

At the republication date, the value of a penalty unit for an offence against this law is \$160 for an individual and \$810 for a corporation (see *Legislation Act* 2001, s 133).



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An Act about reports about land acquired by government agencies, and for other purposes

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Part 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Act

This Act is the Government Agencies (Land Acquisition Reporting) Act 2018.

2 Commencement

- (1) This Act (other than the following provisions) commences on 1 January 2019:
 - section 5 (1) (e)
 - section 6 (e)
 - part 7.

Note The naming and commencement provisions automatically commence on the notification day (see Legislation Act, s 75 (1)).

(2) The provisions mentioned in subsection (1) commence on 1 July 2019.

3 Dictionary

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The dictionary at the end of this Act is part of this Act.

Note 1 The dictionary at the end of this Act defines certain terms used in this Act, and includes references (*signpost definitions*) to other terms defined elsewhere in this Act.

For example, the signpost definition 'government agency—see section 5.' means that the term 'government agency' is defined in that section and the definition applies to this Act.

Note 2 A definition in the dictionary (including a signpost definition) applies to the entire Act unless the definition, or another provision of the Act, provides otherwise or the contrary intention otherwise appears (see Legislation Act, s 155 and s 156 (1)).

4 Notes

A note included in this Act is explanatory and is not part of this Act.

Note See the Legislation Act, s 127 (1), (4) and (5) for the legal status of notes.

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Part 2 Important concepts

5 Meaning of government agency

(1) In this Act:

government agency means—

- (a) an administrative unit; or
- (b) a public sector body; or
- (c) a territory authority; or
- (d) a territory instrumentality; or
- (e) a territory-owned corporation.
- (2) However, *government agency* does not include the University of Canberra.

6 Who is a responsible Minister?

In this Act:

responsible Minister, for a government agency, means—

- (a) for an administrative unit—the Minister allocated responsibility for the administrative unit under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, section 14 (1) (a); and
- (b) for a public sector body—the Minister allocated responsibility for the Act under which the body is established under the administrative arrangements under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, section 14 (1) (b); and

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- (c) for a territory authority—the Minister allocated responsibility for the Act under which the authority is established under the administrative arrangements under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, section 14 (1) (b); and
- (d) for a territory instrumentality—the Minister declared as the responsible Minister for the territory instrumentality's annual report under the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act* 2004, section 12; and
- (e) for a territory-owned corporation—the Chief Minister.

7 Meaning of land acquisition

(1) In this Act:

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land acquisition—

- (a) means an acquisition of land by a government agency; and
- (b) includes—
 - (i) an acquisition under the Lands Acquisition Act 1994; or
 - (ii) a surrender of a Crown lease, or part of the land comprised in a Crown lease, under the *Planning and Development Act* 2007, section 299, whether or not the acquiring government agency agreed to accept the surrender; or
 - (iii) the withdrawal of land from a Crown lease under the terms of the lease; or
 - (iv) a termination of a Crown lease under the *Planning and Development Act 2007*, section 382; or
 - (v) any other acquisition of land by a government agency required under a territory law; or
 - (vi) an acquisition prescribed by regulation.

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- (2) However, *land acquisition* does not include—
 - (a) an acquisition of land by a government agency from another government agency; or
 - (b) an acquisition prescribed by regulation.

Example—par (a)

as a result of a change to the functions of an administrative unit made under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, s 14

(3) In this section:

declared land sublease—see the Planning and Development Act 2007, section 312C.

land—

- (a) means the legal or equitable estate in land in the ACT or elsewhere; and
- (b) includes—
 - (i) unleased territory land; and
 - (ii) anything prescribed by regulation; but
- (c) unless otherwise stated by regulation, does not include—
 - (i) a sublease of a Crown lease other than a declared land sublease; or
 - (ii) any other tenancy or occupancy right; or
 - (iii) an easement or any other incorporeal right.

Note An incorporeal right is an intangible right attached to land, and in addition to easements, includes rents, tithes and profit à prendre.

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Part 3 Reporting requirements

8 Publication of reports about land acquisitions etc

- (1) As soon as practicable after the end of each quarter, the responsible Minister for a government agency must publish on an ACT government website—
 - (a) if the government agency made a land acquisition in the quarter—a report about the acquisition that includes the matters mentioned in section 9; and
 - (b) if the City Renewal Authority made no land acquisitions in the quarter—a statement to that effect; and
 - (c) if the Suburban Land Agency made no land acquisitions in the quarter—a statement to that effect.
- (2) After a report mentioned in subsection (1) (a) about a land acquisition is published, the responsible Minister must give the relevant committee a copy of the report.
- (3) In this section:

relevant committee means—

- (a) a standing committee of the Legislative Assembly nominated by the Speaker for subsection (2); or
- (b) if no nomination under paragraph (a) is in effect—the standing committee of the Legislative Assembly responsible for public accounts.

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9 Report about acquisition of land

- (1) A report about land acquisition by a government agency must—
 - (a) identify—
 - (i) the particulars of the land that was acquired; and
 - (ii) the government agency that acquired the land; and
 - (iii) from whom the land was acquired; and
 - (b) describe the way in which the acquisition was made; and
 - (c) state—
 - (i) the compensation paid or payable for the land; and
 - (ii) any other amount paid or payable in relation to the acquisition; and
 - (d) for a defined land acquisition, include—
 - (i) any valuation given to the acquiring government agency by the person from whom the land was acquired; and
 - (ii) any other valuation considered by the acquiring government agency; and
 - (e) for a defined land acquisition, state—
 - (i) whether the acquisition was—
 - (A) approved by the Executive, a stated Minister or a public servant; or
 - (B) agreed by Cabinet; or

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- (ii) if the acquisition was approved by a public servant—the position of the public servant; and
- (iii) the date the acquisition was approved or agreed; and
- (f) for a defined land acquisition, include a short statement about the following:
 - (i) the reason why the land was acquired including the proposed and potential short and long term use and development of the land;
 - (ii) how the proposed use and development of the land is consistent with the territory plan;
 - (iii) how the acquisition is in the public interest;
 - (iv) how the acquisition is consistent with the functions of the acquiring government agency;
 - (v) if relevant, how the proposed use and development of the land supports the principle of environmental sustainability;
 - (vi) if the acquiring government agency has a statement of intent—how the acquisition is consistent with the agency's statement of intent, or other relevant forecasts, for the year;
 - how the acquisition represents value for money taking into account the particulars of the land, any valuation, the proposed and potential short and long term use and development of the land, relevant policies and programs of the acquiring government agency or the Territory; and
- (g) include anything prescribed by regulation.

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- (2) For an acquisition made under the *Lands Acquisition Act 1994*, if the amount paid or payable is not known at the end of the quarter the report—
 - (a) must state that the information is not yet known and that the report will be updated when the information is known; and
 - (b) must be updated to include the amount paid or payable as soon as practicable after the amount is known.
- (3) A report may include any other information the responsible Minister considers relevant.

Example

information from a business case or risk assessment

(4) In this section:

defined land acquisition means a land acquisition other than an acquisition mentioned in section 7 (1) (b) (ii) to (vi).

10 Certain information must not be included in reports or statement

- (1) This section applies to a report under section 8 (1) (a) about a land acquisition by a government agency.
- (2) For an acquisition of land from an individual, the individual's name must not be included in the report or statement, and must be removed from any document attached to the report or statement.
- (3) For—
 - (a) an acquisition of land to be developed or used as—
 - (i) a housing assistance property; or

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- (ii) a facility to provide a service for community health or safety, if the Minister has declared, in writing, that disclosure of identifying particulars would risk an adverse impact on the privacy or reputation of potential users of the facility; or
- (b) an acquisition of land under a land rent lease; or
- (c) an acquisition of land prescribed by regulation;

the only identifying particular of the acquired land that may be included in a report or statement is the district in which the acquired land is located and any other identifying particulars of the land must be removed from any document attached to the report or statement.

- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply if the information has entered the public domain.
- (5) For an acquisition of land under a land rent lease, information that must not be disclosed by a tax officer under the *Taxation Administration Act 1999*, division 9.4 (Secrecy) must not be included in the report or statement, and must be removed from any document attached to the report or statement.
- (6) In this section:

district means a district determined under the Districts Act 2002, section 5.

housing assistance property—see the Housing Assistance Act 2007, section 28 (2).

land rent lease—see the Land Rent Act 2008, dictionary.

tax officer—see the Taxation Administration Act 1999, section 94.

Part 4 Miscellaneous

11 Relationship to other laws

- (1) This Act is in addition to the requirements of any other territory law.
- (2) If a Minister is required under any other territory law to prepare a report about the acquisition of land, the Minister may prepare a report that complies with both this Act and the other law.

12 Regulation-making power

The Executive may make regulations for this Act.

Note A regulation must be notified, and presented to the Legislative Assembly, under the Legislation Act.

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Part 5 Transitional

13 Acquisitions made before 1 January 2019

A government agency is not required to report on a land acquisition made—

- (a) under an agreement entered into before 1 January 2019; or
- (b) by a surrender of a lease, or part of the land comprised in a lease, consented to under the *Planning and Development Act* 2007, section 299 (1) before 1 January 2019.

14 Expiry—pt 5

This part expires on 1 July 2019.

Note Transitional provisions are kept in the Act for a limited time. A transitional provision is repealed on its expiry but continues to have effect after its repeal (see Legislation Act, s 88).

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∪ Part 7

Delayed amendment

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Section 7 (3), definition of *land*

substitute

land—

- (a) means the legal or equitable estate in land in the ACT or elsewhere; and
- (b) includes—
 - (i) unleased territory land; and
 - (ii) an easement other than an easement prescribed by regulation; and
 - (iii) anything prescribed by regulation; but
- (c) unless otherwise stated by regulation, does not include—
 - (i) a sublease of a Crown lease other than a declared land sublease; or
 - (ii) any other tenancy or occupancy right; or
 - (iii) any other incorporeal right.

Note An incorporeal right is an intangible right attached to land, and in addition to easements, includes rents, tithes and profit à prendre.

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Dictionary

(see s 3)

Note 1 The Legislation Act contains definitions and other provisions relevant to this Act.

Note 2 For example, the Legislation Act, dict, pt 1, defines the following terms:

- administrative unit
- city renewal authority
- Executive
- Legislative Assembly
- Minister (see s 162)
- must (see s 146)
- person
- public sector body
- public servant
- quarter
- Speaker
- suburban land agency
- territory authority
- territory instrumentality
- territory land
- territory law
- territory-owned corporation.

government agency—see section 5.

land acquisition—see section 7.

responsible Minister, for a government agency—see section 6.

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Endnotes

1 About the endnotes

Amending and modifying laws are annotated in the legislation history and the amendment history. Current modifications are not included in the republished law but are set out in the endnotes.

Not all editorial amendments made under the Legislation Act 2001, part 11.3 are annotated in the amendment history. Full details of any amendments can be obtained from the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

Uncommenced amending laws are not included in the republished law. The details of these laws are underlined in the legislation history. Uncommenced expiries are underlined in the legislation history and amendment history.

If all the provisions of the law have been renumbered, a table of renumbered provisions gives details of previous and current numbering.

The endnotes also include a table of earlier republications.

2 Abbreviation key

CN = Commencement notice

A = ActNI = Notifiable instrument

AF = Approved form om = omitted/repealed am = amended amdt = amendment ord = ordinance

AR = Assembly resolution orig = original

ch = chapter par = paragraph/subparagraph

o = order

pres = present

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def = definition prev = previous DI = Disallowable instrument (prev...) = previously

dict = dictionary pt = part

disallowed = disallowed by the Legislative r = rule/subrule Assembly reloc = relocated div = division renum = renumbered exp = expires/expired R[X] = Republication No

Gaz = gazette RI = reissue hdg = heading s = section/subsection IA = Interpretation Act 1967 sch = schedule

ins = inserted/added sdiv = subdivision LA = Legislation Act 2001 SL = Subordinate law LR = legislation register sub = substituted

LRA = Legislation (Republication) Act 1996 underlining = whole or part not commenced

mod = modified/modification or to be expired

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3 Legislation history

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notified LR 12 November 2018 s 1, s 2 commenced 12 November 2018 (LA s 75 (1)) s 5 (1) (e), s 6 (e), pt 7 awaiting commencement remainder commenced 1 January 2019 (s 2 (1))

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Endnotes

4 Amendment history

4 Amendment history

Transitional

pt 5 hdg <u>exp 1 July 2019 (s 14)</u> **Acquisitions made before 1 January 2019** s 13 <u>exp 1 July 2019 (s 14)</u>

Expiry—pt 5

s 14 <u>exp 1 July 2019 (s 14)</u>

Consequential amendments pt 6 hdg om LA s 89 (3)

City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Act 2017

s 15 om LA s 89 (3)

5 Uncommenced provisions

Section 5 (1) (e), s 6 (e) and pt 7 (s 16) were uncommenced at the republication date but have been included in this republication with the symbol $\boxed{\textbf{U}}$ immediately before the provisions.

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