Australian Capital Territory

City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (Authority Board Member) Appointment 2026 (No 1)

Disallowable instrument DI2026-161

made under the

City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Act 2017, s 15 (Establishment of governing board for authority)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This explanatory statement relates to the *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (Authority Board Member) Appointment 2026 (No 1)* as made by the Chief Minister. 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.

Overview
Section 7 of the *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Act 2017* (the ***Act***) establishes the City Renewal Authority (the ***authority***). Section 15 of the Act establishes the governing board for the authority. For the purposes of the *Financial Management Act 1996* (the ***FMA***) the authority is a territory authority, and therefore parts 8 and 9 of that Act apply. Section 78 (7) (b) of the FMA provides that an appointment of a member to a governing board of a territory authority is an appointment under the provision of the establishing Act that establishes the governing board. In this case, section 15 of the Act is the relevant provision of the establishing Act.

Section 78 of the FMA provides for the appointment of authority boards generally. The Minister with responsibility for a territory authority may appoint members of the governing board 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 21 (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 areas of expertise prescribed in section 21 (2) of the Act.

Appointment
This instrument appoints Mr Chris McCluskey as an expert member of the board for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2029.

Mr McCluskey is an experienced non-executive director and former senior executive with more than 20 years' experience in property and infrastructure development, investment and governance across Australia. He has led major mixed-use and precinct developments nationally, including executive oversight of multi-billion-dollar pipelines and large capital programs. His background spans institutional development, government-linked property environments, stakeholder negotiation and strategic governance. He currently holds board roles with Economic Development Queensland, Brisbane Economic Development Agency and Wagner Corporation. His qualifications include a Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Arts and membership of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Considered against the terms of the Act, Mr McCluskey has knowledge or experience across the following disciplines:

- urban renewal;
- urban design;
- environmentally sustainable development;
- social inclusion and community building;
- law, public administration and governance; and
- financing major development projects.

Section 21 (4) of the Act provides that a member of the board must not be a public servant. Mr McCluskey is not a public servant.

Consultation

Division 19.3.3 of the *Legislation Act 2001* (the Legislation Act) applies as Mr McCluskey 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 Environment and Planning has been consulted and noted the appointment. The appointment is a disallowable instrument by operation of section 229 of the Legislation Act.

Regulatory impact statement

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

Remuneration for the board is set by the ACT Remuneration Tribunal under Determination 13 of 2025 (Part-time Public Office Holders) and is met by the authority's budget.

Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference

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 15 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 a member to the board is integral to the authority's operations 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 upon non-reviewable decisions. The instrument enables formal appointment of a member of the board.