



**GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT'S
STRATEGY AND DESIGN
PREQUALIFICATION SCHEME**

**Description of the Scheme's
Categories and Capabilities**

Government Architect
New South Wales
L3, 320 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

government.architect
@planning.nsw.gov.au
T +61(02)9860 1450

governmentarchitect.nsw.gov.au



Government Architect's Strategy and Design Prequalification Scheme

1) STRATEGY

The Strategy category requires practitioners to adopt a design thinking approach when providing services for the capabilities listed in this category.

Applicants must demonstrate that they have the qualifications and/or experience to complete work within any capability area, as a stand-alone project. For example, whilst it is understood that architects provide some stakeholder engagement services as a component part of the design process, it is not necessarily the case that all architects are able or suitable to provide stakeholder engagement as a stand-alone professional service.

a) PROJECT INITIATION: DEFINITION, JUSTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Project Initiation includes all strategic work involved in starting up a new project. The consultant must demonstrate specialised skill in undertaking the following activities:

- Defining project objectives, scope, purpose and deliverables
- Project vision and aspirations
- Project team establishment
- Risk analysis and risk management
- Public/ Private partnership strategy
- Client approval to proceed
- Due diligence

b) PROJECT GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Expertise in establishing a framework within which project decisions are made so that an organization will have a structured approach to conducting both its business as usual activities and its business change, or project activities. This could include the management of open or invited competitions and all governance associated with those processes. The consultant must demonstrate specialised skill in undertaking some or all of the following activities:

- Project leadership, governance and assurance
- Program and project management
- Procurement management, including design competition management
- Cost and Value management
- Negotiation, drafting and administration of contracts

c) BUSINESS CASE DEVELOPMENT

A 'business case' is a form of advice to executive decision-makers. It is a substantiated argument for a project, policy or program proposal requiring a resource investment, often including a financial commitment. The consultant must demonstrate specialised skill in undertaking the following activities:

- Business case writing
- Needs, objectives, options and benefits evaluation
- Tabling compliance with all legislation
- Implementation plans
- Assessment of expected costs, risks, and outcomes

d) FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Consultants are required to have expertise in financial and economic analysis using market information. The consultant must demonstrate specialised skill in undertaking the following activities:

- Analysis measuring internal and external effects to test if a project will be economically viable and financially sustainable;
- Financial resource modelling;
- Investment strategy analysis;
- Assessment of value for money, willingness to pay and cost-benefit analysis
- Benchmarking and best practice assessment

e) STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND MANAGEMENT

The consultant must demonstrate specialised skill in the following activities:

- Stakeholder identification, analysis, consultation and reporting
- Communication planning
- Technical writing
- Corporate and Strategic communication
- Issues management
- Media and public relations
- Event management

The consultant needs to demonstrate experience in consulting with key client stakeholders as well as with the broader community including:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Culturally and linguistically diverse communities
- Enabling those with disabilities to participate in consultation

f) STRATEGIC PLANNING

The strategic planning capability is for specialist consultants with ability to:

- Apply research and analysis to understand project constraints and synthesise complexity;
- Propose and test strategic scenarios that anticipate long term environmental, social, cultural and economic risks;
- Facilitate a collaborative approach that drives future-focused solutions;
- Foster effective relationships with diverse stakeholders, community and the team

- Incorporate temporal thinking, future projections and contingency planning within project constraints
- Communicate innovative strategic vision across scales and to different audiences.
- Translate strategic vision into an actionable methodology that is situated within strategic planning and government policy frameworks.

g) ABORIGINAL CULTURAL AND SPATIAL INTELLIGENCE

The consultant in this capability will demonstrate ability to:

- Research to establish quality content (academic, experiential research or knowledge holder)
- Identify cultural risks and issues
- Identify key stakeholders
- Collaborate effectively with diverse stakeholders and interagency teams
- Demonstrate innovative methodology to connect to and understand country
- Contextualise projects within place / country / broader systems or networks of place
- Synthesise content into recommendations and actions to inform project formation, outcomes and delivery.
- Communicate findings through written, graphic or other means

2) DESIGN

The Design category requires demonstrated excellence in and peer/industry acknowledgement of the capabilities in this category.

a) ARCHITECTURE

The consultant must demonstrate specialised skill, experience and design quality in undertaking two or more of the following activities:

- Design of new buildings and structures
- Refurbishment and interior fitout of existing buildings
- Adaptive reuse of heritage buildings
- Site based master planning and concept feasibility design
- Infrastructure associated building scale projects
- Architectural design policy, strategy and research

b) URBAN DESIGN

The consultant must demonstrate specialised skill, experience and design quality in undertaking two or more of the following activities:

- Urban analysis
- Precinct based master planning, including strategic frameworks, spatial masterplans and implementation plans
- Development feasibility
- Urban design policy, strategy and research
- Infrastructure associated urban or precinct scale projects

c) LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

The consultant must demonstrate specialised skill, experience and design quality in undertaking two or more of the following activities:

- Design of public and private open spaces
- Urban and public domain design
- Park design
- Environmental rehabilitation and restoration
- Open space policy, strategy and research
- Spatial masterplans and implementation plans

d) EMERGING PRACTICES

Young and/or emerging practices established within less than 7 years in any of the categories and capabilities listed above, strategy and design excellence.