

NSW Planning Portal API release notes – 28 August 2026

On 28 August 2026, new NSW Planning Portal functionality will be released that will impact the APIs. This document outlines those changes.

Overview

Release date	28/08/2026 (release deployment after business hours)
Were these changes part of a policy implementation?	☒ Yes – Planning System Reform changes (LEP variation) ☒ No – Enhancements and fixes
Description of the change	This release includes: • Changes to the way existing Local Environmental Plan (LEP) variation information is captured in the Online DA application form • Council officers to complete a mandatory justification when an exhibition period exceeds 14 days • BAU API enhancements and fixes.
Availability of changes in UAT	The API changes are available to vendors for build and test activities in the UAT environment from 18 th August 2026.

API impacts

The table below outlines the API impacts for this release.

1. Online DA service v2 API

The following changes will be made to the Online DA service v2 API from 28 August 2026:

Summary of business / user interface change	API type	Change type	API impact	Action required
On the 'Related Planning information' screen within the application form in the Online DA service, the question ' <i>Does the application propose a variation to a development standard contained in an environmental planning instrument such as an local environmental plan (LEP) or State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP), for example building height or floor space ratio?</i> ' will be made mandatory.	Existing	Non-breaking	- API specification (YAML) description changes to be made for attribute <code>doesVaryLEP</code>. - This applies to the 'CreateDA', 'UpdateDA' and 'EditDA' operations.	- These changes are applicable for applications submitted on or after the release on 28 August 2026. - Councils using the 'EditDA' operation should consider adopting this enhancement at a time of their choosing. - For Councils using the 'CreateDA' and 'UpdateDA' operations, there is no change required as the 'doesVaryLEP' is shared as part of existing payload.
When a council officers enter exhibition start and end dates, they will be required to input a mandatory justification when an exhibition exceeds 14 days. This field, 'Reason for extending	Existing	Non-breaking	A new conditionally mandatory attribute <code>'reasonForExtendingExhibition'</code> (string), is being added to for	Councils using 'UpdateDA' operation will need to update their system to consume the new attribute

Summary of business / user interface change	API type	Change type	API impact	Action required
public exhibition period' has a maximum of 512 characters.			'UpdateDA', 'CreateExhibition' and 'UpdateExhibition' operations. This field is only required when the duration of an exhibition duration is greater than 14 days.	'reasonForExtendingExhibition' as part of the API payload. - Councils using the 'CreateExhibition' and 'UpdateExhibition' operation will need to provide the new attribute 'reasonForExtendingExhibition' as part of the API payload. - Backward compatibility is provided initially, with further communication prior to any changes. Councils using 'CreateExhibition' or 'UpdateExhibition' APIs will need to adopt this enhancement prior to that time.

2. Online Post-Consent Certificate (PCC)

The following changes will be made to the PCC service API from 28 August 2026:

Summary of business / user interface change	API type	Change type	API impact	Action required
While performing the completeness check or Principal Certifier (PC) appointments using the 'AcceptReturn' operation, users were receiving an incorrect error message, even though the	Existing	Non-breaking	This behaviour has been corrected, and users will now receive the appropriate response when the	No action is required

Summary of business / user interface change	API type	Change type	API impact	Action required
case had successfully progressed to the next stage. This issue has now been fixed. Note: This is an API-only change and does not impact the UI.			'AcceptReturn' operation completes successfully.	
For the 'Determine' operation, if the request payload contained an empty document array, the API through an unexpected error, 'internal server error'. This issue has now been fixed. Note: This is an API-only change and does not impact the UI.	Existing	Non-breaking	- The 'Determine' operation has been updated to handle empty document arrays. This is consistent with other Post-consent certificate operations. - A validation message was introduced indicating that the required document information is missing.	No action is required

3. Online Section 68 service

The following changes will be made to the Online section 68 service API from 28 August 2026:

Summary of business / user interface change	API type	Change type	API impact	Action required
The API required cases to be reassigned to the consent authority's queue before performing the Completeness Check, resulting in validation errors for API-based integrations, when the	Existing	Non-breaking	The 'AcceptReturn' operation has been updated so that registered and active users within the same organisation can now directly act on a Section 68 application without	Individual cases no longer need to be assigned or reassigned to the relevant Council user's queue using the 'Reassign API' before processing an Accept/Return action.

Summary of business / user interface change	API type	Change type	API impact	Action required
cases were not assigned to the specific individual users. The API has been updated to allow Section68 applications to be directly Accepted or Returned without prior reassignment. Note: This is an API-only change and does not impact the UI.			requiring reassignment via the 'Reassign' API.	As a result, the Reassign API is no longer required for this workflow. Council systems should be updated accordingly.

More information

For more information about the API changes, please contact the API team on email ePlanningAPI@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Acronyms

This document has contained the following acronyms:

- API - Application Program Interface
- DA - Development application
- PCC - Post-consent Certificate
- S68 - Section 68 of the Local Government Act

