



SDWK.Planning@SouthPerth

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What we've done...

- Became aware that the Shire of Derby-West Kimberley were seeking assistance with Planning Services
- Assessed capacity of team
- Prepared a proposal and met with the then Director
- Prepared a MOU signed by CEOs of both local governments
- Informed the Elected Members

Why we did it...

- Seen as a development and learning opportunity for planners
- Seen as an opportunity to assist regional local government and strengthen relationships outside of metro area
- Revenue stream (but not a main driver)
- So that we can say ‘we’re urban and regional planners!’

Planning Services provided ...

- General enquiries
 - Email, phone, Teams and in-person
- Development Applications
 - Assessment and drafting of notice of determination
 - Officers liaise directly with the applicant regarding any further information or clarification
- DAP applications
 - Preparation of RAR and attendance at meetings
- Subdivision referrals
 - Assess and drafted recommendations prepared

What's excluded ...

- Advertising in relation to DA's
- Internal referral of applications and statutory referrals
- Conditions Clearance and compliance
- Preparation of reports or advice to Council
- Scheme Amendments
- Representation at the SAT unless directed by the SAT
- Preparation of Local Planning Scheme
- Structure Plans and Precinct Structure Plans
- Local Heritage Survey, Local Heritage List or Heritage Areas


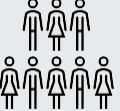



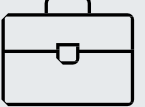
Operation...

- Process:

- Created specific email address and 'signature'
- Established a separate inbox for receipt of enquires and development applications
- Enquiries (email and phone) are sent to the SDWK inbox and allocated by Coordinator
- Use Microsoft Teams - Shire can view, but not add/edit (IT Security issues)
- Complete Shire of Derby-West Kimberley assessment template
- Draft decision notice and accompanying letter (on Shire's template)
- Draft decision emailed back to Shire admin
- Log all officers time

Benefits so far..

- Experience of regional planning
- Interesting and diverse range of development and enquiries
- Expanding knowledge of different planning frameworks
- Appreciation of the challenges of working with different State Government departments
- Income

Comparison	South Perth	Derby West Kimberley
 Land Area	19.8km ²	118,560km ²
 Population	43,280	7,730
 Dwelling Numbers	20,885	1,934
 Largest Source of Employment	Healthcare, Education and Training	Government Services
 Indigenous Population	1.5%	64%
 Local Businesses	5,147	250

What we've learnt...

- The Shire of Derby - West Kimberley is huge!
- No Intramaps - can be difficult in finding application sites - took half a day to find one site (an island!), reliance on PlanWA
- Accepting that we won't receive the same level of information
- Appreciation of development in remote areas - cost involved and environmental implications
- The importance of communication and obtaining background information
- The importance of record keeping
- Be flexible and pragmatic (within the MOU)
- Appreciate that the language used may not be familiar to admin officers
- Advise your Customer Service Team what you're doing (you're not moonlighting!)

Types of DA's...

- Worker's accommodation
- Short stay accommodation
- Re-building of dwellings in Fitzroy Crossing after flooding
- Health care facilities and supporting structures (workers accommodation)
- Campsites
- Concrete batching (popular application type!)

Site visit...

- Three planners visited Derby and Fitzroy Crossing in June 2024
- It was hot - it was dusty!
- Sites visited
 - Derby Town and Council Offices
 - Derby Jetty
 - Prison Boab Tree
 - Fitzroy Crossing
 - Fitzroy Crossing River Lodge
- Attended a Council meeting - very different to the City of South Perth, but best potato bake ever!



What we saw when we went there ...











SITE OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Pison Bush Tree derives from its reputed use as a rest point for police & visiting Aboriginal groups en route to Derby, and previously, its prior use as a likely source connection with Aboriginal traditional linguistic history.

The Pison Bush Tree attracts many visitors. The tree was erected as a monument for the regional significance of the Pison Bush Tree and its historic pedestrian traffic from connecting the land around its roots.

The site is protected under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972. Please be advised that unauthorised entry beyond the perimeter fence is prohibited.

Note also that snakes are known to inhabit the area.







Where to next...

- Ongoing refinement of our internal processes
- Review MOU in 2025
- Another trip to the region ?
- Other Local Governments have expressed interest in outsourcing their Planning Services so if you're interested - liaise with WALGA to make the connection

Thank you!