







DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The planning and development assessment system under the Planning Act 2016 sets out a standard process to ensure development applications are assessed and decided consistently and transparently, in accordance with community expectations as set out in the local planning scheme.

The development assessment process is set out in a statutory instrument called the Development Assessment rules. These rules predominately used by local governments and the development industry. However, it is also important to community understand the key elements

Pre-application

Prior to submitting an application, Council suggest that you carry out a pre-lodgement meeting before lodging your application, this is voluntary and is not a formal part of the development assessment process, however this will ensure you are on the right track and any potential issues are addressed up front.

Application

When making a development application, the applicant needs to meet certain criteria to ensure it is 'properly made'. This part sets out the requirements and actions that need to be taken to ensure a development application is 'properly made'. For example, if critical information is left off the application, which means the assessment manager cannot assess it properly, the applicant can be asked to resubmit or provide more information before the assessment of the application starts.

Information Request

Within the process, there is a formal opportunity for the assessment manager (and any concurrence agency) to ask the applicant for more information about the application. This is not compulsory and will only occur if helpful. The system encourages open communication between all parties prior to this formal part being used.

Referral

Some types of development applications will require additional assessment to be carried out by referral agencies during the development assessment process. If referral is required, this part becomes relevant to the development

application. This part sets out the process and requirements for how a referral agency assesses a development application and gives their referral responses.

Public Notification

This part sets out when and how public notification needs to be undertaken for applications that require impact assessment or those that include a variation request. The applicant is required to give public notice via newspaper, at the premises and by contacting adjoining landowners. During the public notification period people can make submissions about their development application, which the assessment manger will consider when making their decision.

Decision

When the assessment manager has all the information required, they then have a formal period to make their decision, which can be to approve, approve with conditions, or refuse the development application. To improve the transparency of the system, an assessment manager's reasons for decisions will be publicly available.

Appeal

After a development application has been decided, the Act specifies certain instances where a decision may be appealed by an applicant or other party to the development application. This includes submitters who made a properly made submission, who are then afforded appeal rights and may, within the submitter's appeal period, lodge an appeal against the decision.













Further information

For further information, please contact Cloncurry Shire Council:

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