



Environmental Development and Allied Professionals

Winter 2022 Newsletter

Environmental & Development Industry News

Planning Delivery Unit

The Dept of Planning & Environment's Planning Delivery Unit (PDU) works with proponents, councils and NSW Government agencies to resolve development issues so that decisions can be made more promptly. The PDU was created in July 2020 as part of the NSW Governments' planning reforms work. While the PDU does not make decisions they work to progress priority planning projects, both development applications (DAs) and planning proposals, that may be stuck in the system.

<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Planning-reforms/Planning-Delivery-Unit>

Existing uses – understanding the land being used

In any court case involve existing use rights, one of the most critical issues is the extent of the land being used for the existing use. The determination of this issue is often a difficult exercise, requiring a detailed analysis of the history of uses and operations at the particular site against the background of the applicable planning controls and any relevant development consents. A recent decision of Commissioner Gray in the Land and Environment Court neatly illustrates the potential difficulty and complexity of the exercise.

https://www.lindsaytaylorlawyers.com.au/in_focus/existing-uses-understanding-the-land-being-used/

Guidance for the Preparation and Review of Biodiversity Development Assessment Reports

Any development or activity which triggers Part 7 of the BC Act, and is likely to significantly affect threatened species must be accompanied by a BDAR. The BC Act then mandates a process for a consent authority or determining authority to consider the likely impact of the proposed development on biodiversity values, as assessed in that BDAR.

Whilst decision makers need to critically review BDARs on a case by case basis and examine the evidence-based justification provided, there is a view that the template can operate as a preliminary checklist to ensure that all requirements of BAM 2020 have been included in a BDAR.

https://www.lindsaytaylorlawyers.com.au/in_focus/guidance-for-the-preparation-and-review-of-biodiversity-development-assessment-reports/



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EDAP Western Group Conference 2022 – Forbes

The 2022 EDAP 20th Annual Regional Conference in conjunction with the Riverina Group held 11 to 13 May proved to be a resounding success after the disappointing decision to cancel the EDAP Conference which was to be hosted by Orange City Council in 2020 due to the Covid Pandemic

So after a hiatus of nearly 3 years with the pandemic it was pleasing to see such a great roll up at Forbes although we did manage to co-join with the Riverina Group in Junee late last year for their successful Conference.

Wednesday kicked off with the AAC Seminar in the morning with Shane Gillespie providing an informative seminar. Over 40 delegates attended the seminar indicating the demand for training in the central west.



After lunch the Central West Food Group conducted their meeting with the added bonus of training with Ruth Houston from the NSW Food Authority. It was a very successful meeting, again with over 40 delegates attending

Wednesday evening the Network session at the Forbes RSL saw a huge contingent of delegates attend after their long drives from places such as Moree, Leeton, Sydney and Muswellbrook. The evening was sponsored by Neil Smith from B.E.S.T. and proved to be a great night.

Thursday morning saw delegates treated to a welcoming coffee from the coffee van before the conference was officially opened by Forbes Deputy Mayor Councillor Chris Roylance. Over 80 delegates were in attendance to listen to the array of guest speakers.

Thursday evening delegates were treated to an evening of Bush Poetry, Organ playing and live music with Eliza Noakes' (Forbes Town Planner) band. Delegates enjoyed the stand-up meal from Eat Your Greens from Eugowra which allowed delegates to mingle and catch up with friends and make new connections.



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A quick question from Forbes— which delegate slept rough due to an inability to find their accommodation on Google maps?



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Below: When you book a motel room in a foreign town try to remember where it is located. Or know how to use Google maps.



Friday morning delegates were treated to bacon & egg rolls before a presentation on Forbes Heritage from Rob Willis. Delegates then had a site visit to the new Forbes Shire Council residential subdivision & some delegates stayed on for a round of golf & from all the feedback so far, the Forbes Conference was deemed a huge success.

Special thanks to those behind the scenes who make the event possible. Matthew Teale who ensured catering was of such a high standard, Lara Kronenberg & Caitlin Mahoney who seemed to be everywhere helping on the day, Erika Mackenzie for Certificates of attendances, name badges and general secretarial duties leading up to the conference, Isabel Holmes for ensuring delegates are emailed with the latest information and preparation of the program & registration forms and of course to our sponsors who make the event happen:

EDAP

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2022 Conference Sponsors

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Future EDAP Conferences

2023 Conference will be hosted by Bogan Shire Council in Nyngan.

2024 Joint Conference with the Riverina Group will be hosted by Leeton Shire Council in Leeton.

EDAP Membership

EDAP membership now at 583

Training & Conferences

EDAP sponsored both the recent EPIC Conference in Wollongong and the AAC Conference in Sydney which were both very successful events.

Building Surveyor experience opportunity

Building Certificates Australia (BCA) is offering to provide current Building Surveyors with some Class 2 inspection experience. BCA handle these developments on a daily basis and are willing to assist EDAP members in this area.

If you are interested please contact Tim O'Reilly on 02 8014 7720 or email admin@bcaustralia.net.au

Prospective building surveyors would need to arrange their own transport to Sydney and accommodation.