



Local Government Design Review Manual

June 2025



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Photographer: Pixel Collective Architects: Officer Woods and MDC Architects Landscape Architects: Aspect Studios

Acknowledgement of Country

The Western Australian Planning Commission acknowledges the Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of Western Australia.

We pay our respects to the Ancestors and Elders, both past and present, and the ongoing connection between people, land, waters and community. We acknowledge those who continue to share knowledge, their traditions and culture to support our journey for reconciliation. In particular, we recognise land and cultural heritage as places that hold great significance for Aboriginal people.

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About this Manual

The Local Government Design Review Manual (Manual) provides practical, best-practice guidance for Local Government Design Review Panels (LGDRPs) in Western Australia. It aims to support consistent, high-quality design outcomes across jurisdictions, aligned with State Planning Policy 7.0 Design of the Built Environment (SPP 7.0). The Manual serves as a comprehensive resource for all participants involved in local government design review, helping them navigate the process effectively.

▶ Application

Design review is a measure supporting the implementation of SPP 7.0.

The Manual provides best practice guidance for LGDRPs in Western Australia. It is acknowledged that Local Governments of different sizes and in different contexts may adapt processes in this Manual to suit their resourcing and expected demand for design review. Any existing local planning policies and terms of reference for the operation of LGDRPs should be updated to align with the Manual when they are next reviewed.

This Manual focuses on guidance for LGDRPs, but other panels, such as the State Design Review Panel and those run by other State government agencies, may have different processes and procedures.

For further information on the State Design Review Panel please see the <u>State Design Review Panel Manual</u>.

To further support users, this Manual references a series of templates available <u>online</u>. These resources offer additional tools to help ensure effective and efficient design reviews.

> Who is the Manual for?

The manual is for:

- Local governments establishing and operating LGDRPs.
- Panel members and Chairs of LGDRPs.
- Proponents and design teams whose proposals will undergo LGDRP review.
- Decision-makers and elected members considering proposals that have gone through an LGDRP process.

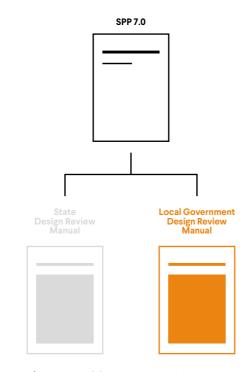


Figure 1 Local Government Design Review Manual relationship with SPP 7.0

> How to use this Manual

The Manual has been structured to clearly outline roles and responsibilities of users and to ensure more efficient navigation.

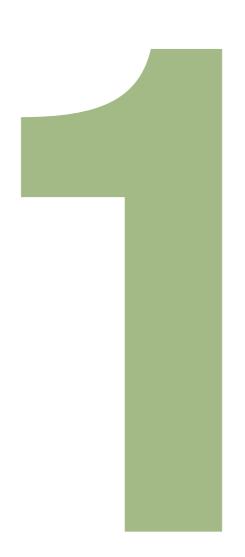
Part 1 explains the role and purpose of design review and LGDRPs within the WA Planning system.

Part 2 provides an overview of local design review processes and participants, detailing the interconnected relationships between participants at different stages of the review process.

Part 3 provides detailed guidance on establishing and appointing a panel; expertise essential to a panel, the selection criteria, the types of panels (shared, joint or single panels) and remuneration process.

Design Review Explained





1.1	WHAT IS DESIGN REVIEW?
1.1.1	WHO BENEFITS FROM DESIGN REVIEW?
1.1.2	PILLARS FOR DESIGN REVIEW
1.2	GOOD DESIGN AND THE PLANNING SYSTEM
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1.3	ROLE OF A LOCAL GOVERNMENT DESIGN REVIEW PANEL
1.3.1	PROPOSALS ELIGIBLE FOR LGDRP CONSIDERATION
1.3.2	STATUS OF DESIGN REVIEW
1.3.3	WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A DESIGNREVIEW AND DESIGN ADVICE?

What is design review?

Design review is an evaluation process that raises the design quality of development proposals and built form planning instruments. Conducted by a panel of trained, multi-disciplinary specialists, design review brings additional insight and professional rigor to each proposal and promotes alignment with SPP 7.0 and related policies.

The benefits of design review are wide-reaching. For developers and design teams, it offers expert feedback and fresh perspectives, which are valuable for complex or unique proposals. For decision makers, it provides trusted, well-rounded insights that aid in assessing proposals and making balanced, informed decisions.

Design review has been demonstrated to enhance community spaces, and ensure development leaves a positive legacy for the community.

▶ Who benefits from design review?

Benefits for proponents

- Early confirmation of foundational design approaches before proposal variables are set.
- Improved value for money outcomes.
- Constructive, independent and multidisciplinary design review provides a forum to test early decisions before there are impacts to cost and time.
- Support for good design and innovative design solutions
- Improved proposal risk management.
- Promoting proposals to meet the objectives of SPP 7.0.

Benefits for local government

- Increased certainty in assessing design quality and applying discretion in recommendations and decisions where design quality is a factor.
- Access to a multi-disciplinary panel of experts where internal expertise in specific areas may not be available.

Benefits for communities

- Confidence that the design quality of a proposal's contribution to the public realm, and responsiveness to adjacent development and surrounding context has been considered.
- Assurance that an independent panel of design experts has provided advice on a proposal, against SPP 7.0.
- Improved social, economic and environmental benefits from development.

▶ Pillars for design review

All panels should be established and operated in line with these protocols to promote consistent outcomes across different local government areas.

Independent

It is conducted by individuals not connected with the proposal's promoters or decision makers, ensuring conflicts of interest are avoided or managed appropriately.

Expert

It is carried out by suitably qualified experts in design who can critique constructively. Review is most respected when conducted by professional peers of the proposal design team, as their expertise is understood and accepted.

Multi-disciplinary

It combines perspectives of architects, urban designers, planners, landscape architects, and other specialist design experts to provide a comprehensive evaluation tailored to the specifics of a proposal.

Accountable

The Panel and its advice must clearly benefit the public.

Transparent

The Panel's remit, membership, governance processes, and funding are in the public domain.

Proportionate

It is used on proposals whose significance warrants the investment needed to provide the service.

Timely

It takes place early in in the design process, to offer the best time and cost benefits for proponents.

Advisory

The Panel does not make decisions, rather it offers impartial expert advice on design to inform assessment and recommendations to decision makers.

Objective

It appraises proposals according to reasoned and objective measures, considering the principles of SPP7.0, rather than the individual taste and subjective preferences of panel members.

Accessible

The advice arising from design review is clearly expressed in terms that design teams, decision makers and the public can understand and use.

Consistent

The advice received across subsequent design review sessions for the same project is consistent. Panel members remain the same across sessions or, when this is not possible, are well-briefed and respectful of previous advice.

Good design and the planning system

Planning aims to create places that work well for everyone in a community. Performance-based planning enables decisions to be made that are mindful of the context and uniqueness of the place and how the proposal fits within that. This requires skilled assessment by expert planners and, often, the exercise of discretion by decision makers to achieve outcomes that avoid a 'one size fits all' mindset. A good design review process can support decisions that benefit both the community and the environment.

> About good design

Good design is more than just looks. It's about making spaces that are functional, sustainable and responsive to their surroundings. A well-designed place is adaptable, cost-effective and enriching for users and the broader community. Good design adds value by improving local neighbourhoods and leaving a positive impact for future generations. Good design endeavours to reconcile multiple concurrent and often competing objectives that vary according to the circumstances of each proposal. A rigorous, considered and contextual design process should prioritise these competing objectives to develop a cohesive, site-responsive design. By carefully balancing various needs, spaces that are practical, beautiful and meaningful can be created.

♦ State Planning Policy 7.0 Design of the Built Environment

SPP 7.0 defines what 'good design' means in Western Australia, establishing a framework that brings quality to every aspect of our built environment. By setting clear expectations, SPP 7.0 aims to create spaces that enhance economic, environmental, social, and cultural well-being. To ensure consistent design across the State, SPP 7.0 outlines 10 interconnected core Design Principles that guide all aspects from planning to building. These principles collectively present a shared vision for high-quality design across Western Australia.

The principles form the basis for design review discussions. Individual principles may not apply equally to all proposals at every stage, due to their location or type. However, as the principles are interconnected, their individual application may positively influence other aspects of the design.

SPP 7.0 can be explored online for more detail.

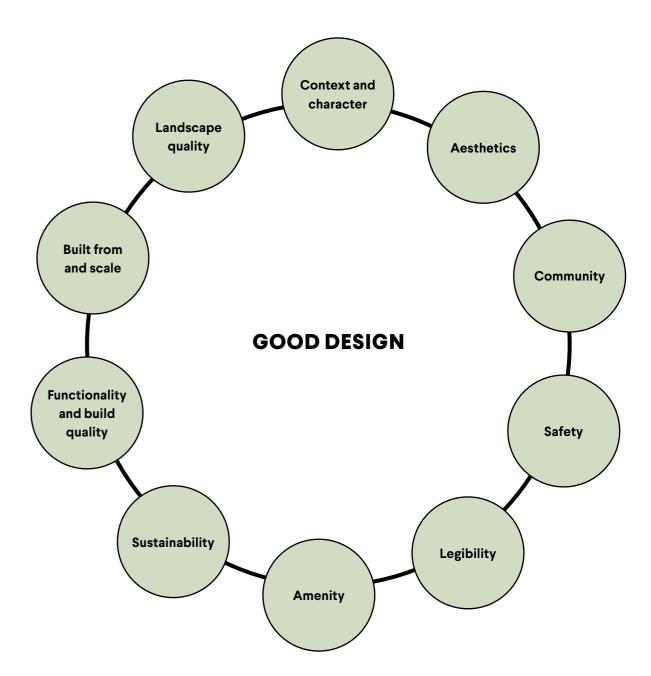


Figure 2 Interconnected design principles

Design Review Explained

1.3

Role of a Local Government Design Review Panel

The role of a LGDRP is to provide advice to decision makers in accordance with its Terms of Reference, on the design quality of a proposal against the SPP 7.0 Design Principles and supporting State Planning Policies, while considering relevant local planning schemes and policies.

Information regarding design review (including Terms of Reference, any Local Planning Policy and other information) should be published on the Local Government's website.

▶ Proposals eligible for LGDRP consideration

Design review eligibility should be outlined in a Local Planning Policy to ensure a consistent approach for all proposals.

Recommended criteria for design review

Unless excluded, projects that meet the following criteria should be considered for design review:

- Multiple and grouped dwelling developments comprising 15 or more units/tenancies (dwellings and/or commercial).
- Development that is 4 or more storeys in height.
- Development located within the Town Centre zone (or another specified zone or locality).
- Development of a property on the State Register of Heritage Places or a Local Government Heritage List established under the Local Planning Scheme unless the proposal excludes a works component or does not require a planning approval under the Local Planning Scheme.
- Works undertaken by the local government if required by the Chief Executive Officer/ Director Planning.

Excluded from local government design review panel consideration:

- Single house
- Two to fourteen unit grouped dwellings
- Warehouse
- Industrial development
- Public works undertaken by a public authority other than the local government
- Projects eligible for referral to the State Design Review Panel or any other design review panel.

Other projects may be referred by the Chief Executive Officer/Director Planning.

The <u>Design Review Eligibility Matrix</u> can assist the Chief Executive Officer/Director Planning in determining whether a specific proposal should go through the design review process, receive design advice, or if no review or advice is needed. This should be used when varying from the general eligibility criteria.

The Matrix's indicators should be interpreted according to the specific context of a local government area. It is recommended that indicative benchmarks for the indicators are set through a Local Planning Policy to ensure a consistent approach for all projects.

In some instances, for example the City Centre in the City of Perth, the above criteria will require adjustment to suit the context.

> Status of design review

Design review panels are advisory; they do not make decisions. The Panel's advice is one of several inputs considered in a thorough assessment process.

Panel advice does not represent a planning assessment nor provide a technical or compliance assessment against the Australian Standards or National Construction Codes.

In some cases, it may be appropriate for a local government to seek specialised input on a project through its usual internal referral processes when assessing a development application. If the required expertise is not available on staff and an external provider is utilised, local governments should refer to the Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996 before undertaking procurement. Local governments who are members of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) can also access a procurement toolkit that includes purchasing and contract management templates and assistance at Procurement Advisory Services | WALGA.

DESIGN REVIEW IS NOT:

- A planning assessment against SPP 7.0.
- Design advice provided by a single individual, or a City or Estate architect.
- A peer review (either by individuals or a group) engaged by the proponent.
- A compliance check carried out at building permit stage.

➤ What is the difference between a design review and design advice?

Design Review is a process of review conducted by a multi-disciplinary panel of qualified professionals established by a regulatory authority and typically addresses an entire proposal rather than specific elements.

In contrast design advice is typically provided by appropriately qualified individuals based on a need to address a focused element or concern. For example, design advice may be sought from a landscape architect relating to a specific landscape element of a proposal.

In many cases, referral to a Design Review Panel may not be necessary or practical, but design advice can still be valuable particularly where specific elements of a proposal would benefit from specialised input. Design advice may be especially helpful in the development of design guidelines, local planning policies, or standard and precinct structure plans.

Design advice can be:

 Provided by an appropriate qualified individual such as an Estate Architect, appropriately qualified local government officer (including City Architect or Landscape Architect), or an appropriately qualified professional procured by the local government.

Undertaken as part of a pre-lodgement process (if offered by the local government) or integrated into the standard referral process.

Guidance for effective design review









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2.1

The design review process

> Engaging with design review

When a proposal is likely to require design review, the proponent and local government should discuss the process and timing of reviews as early as possible, to ensure design review is integrated in a helpful and timely manner.

The number of reviews required will depend on the complexity of the proposal and the quality of the initial design. However, two to three design review sessions are generally recommended. The design review process adds value early in the life of a proposal, when improvements to a proposal can be made without impacts to cost and time.

The first design review should occur during concept design stage, enabling proponents to benefit from advice while the design is still flexible enough to accommodate changes. Subsequent review scheduling will be based on the time required to respond to feedback. The final review will usually be undertaken after lodgement of the application and informs the statutory assessment and decision making processes.

While design review panel meetings and procedures are not open to the public, the final report should be written in a manner that is suitable for publication as it will provide advice and recommendations to a planning decision maker (typically the local government or a Development Assessment Panel).

Where an applicant seeks amendments to approved plans and the local government considers further advice is required, the local government may determine that this is sought as design advice rather than further referral to its Design Review Panel. In this case, the individual providing design advice should not be a member of the project specific Design Review Panel and should have access to the original plans and the final Design Review Panel advice/report.

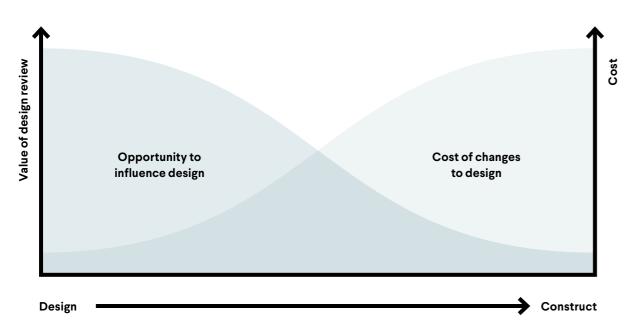


Figure 3 Design review timing

♦ Overview of participants

Every person involved in the design review process plays an important role. Design review is most likely to be successful when roles are clearly understood, and individuals commit to the process.

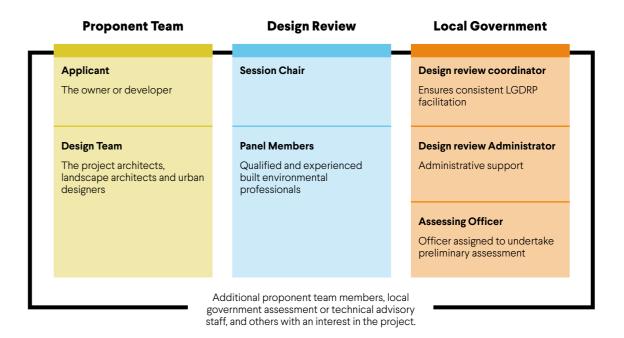


Figure 4 Design review participants

2.1

2.1 The design review process

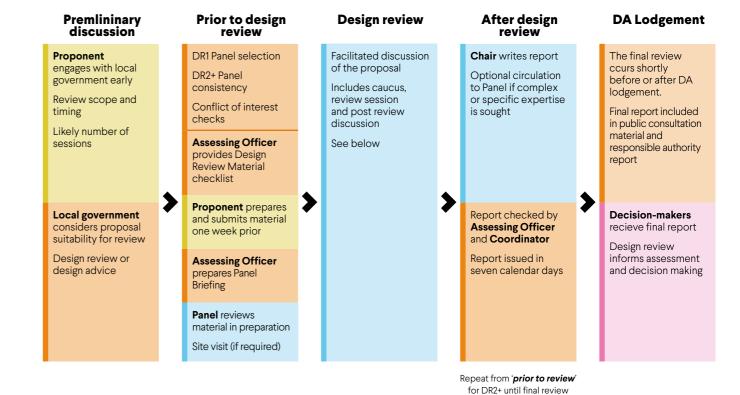
➤ How to get the most from design review

Design review is a structured process that evaluates the design quality of proposals through a series of discrete sessions, offering valuable feedback at key proposal stages. Figure 5 illustrates a typical design review cycle, however the number of sessions may vary based on proposal complexity and requirements. This flexible, session-based approach allows each proposal to be refined and improved before reaching the development application stage.

To achieve the best results, all participants should approach the process with a collaborative mindset and openness to constructive feedback, enabling designs to be refined to better serve both community needs and proposal goals.

A DRP may review several proposals in a sitting. Each proposal review will follow a similar process.





Review session

Panel briefing and caucus

Assessing Officer summary of key planning considerations

Proponent design team makes a clear concise presentation

Chair establishes the structure of the review

Chair and Panel confirm review scope and key points

Acknowledgement of Country and introductions led by Chair

Proponent design team makes a clear concise presentation

Panel questions and discussion provide clear contructive advice

Collaborative dialogue is supported

Chair summarises the discussion and recommendations

Proponent questions and clarifications

40-55 minutes

Post review session

Key issues and reccomendations for reporting are recorded by **Chair** and **Assessing Officer**

Report process and required inputs are discussed



Proponent leaves

5-10 minutes

Figure 5 Quick guide to effective design review

10-15 minutes

■ 2.1 The design review process

▶ Feedback and reporting

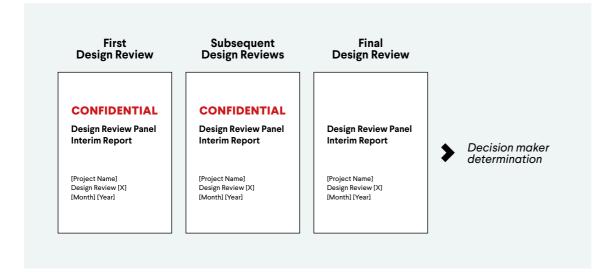


Figure 6 LGDRP reporting formats

Reports

After each design review session, a Design Review Report should be issued within 7 calendar days unless otherwise specified due to complexity of reporting or need to circulate to the Panel prior to finalisation. In such cases, the report should be issued no later than 14 calendar days after a review. Depending on the stage of the review process, this report will be either 'Interim Report' or 'Final Report.'

Interim Report

Reports for any reviews before the final review should be referred to as 'Interim Reports' as they do not represent the final position of the Panel. For this reason, interim reports should be treated as confidential so as not to misrepresent the Panel's position or cause unnecessary confusion.

These reports are shared with the proponent to help refine the design as it evolves, focusing on key areas of support and areas to meet good design standards under SPP 7.0. It is intended to guide the proponent and should inform their responses in subsequent reviews.

Maintaining confidentiality of design review information and material encourages open dialogue and the exploration of ideas between participants.

Interim Reports should not be included in any publicly available documents, such as development applications, consultation packages, public meeting agendas or media, unless otherwise agreed prior to release.

Final Report

The Final Report is the output of the last design review and aims to inform decision makers of the design quality of a proposal. Along with other technical advice, it is one of the factors considered in the assessment of an application. Where relevant, the Final Report may reflect on the entire design review process where it is considered helpful for the decision maker. Final Reports may be referenced in the final documentation presented to the decision maker and in any briefings to elected members or other decision makers as well as public advertising and development applications. As with all professional and technical advice, it is generally better to provide a full copy of the Final Report as an attachment to an assessment report (or other public document) with an appropriate summary and reference within the report.



When an Interim Report becomes the Final Report.

Sometimes it is hard to determine whether a review will be the final one. A review process may finish early for several reasons, making the last Interim Report the final record of the design review process.

In this scenario it is suggested that the Final Report be accompanied by a letter from the Chair stating that the interim report is considered the final report. This letter can provide context about previous review and offer clarity to the decision maker

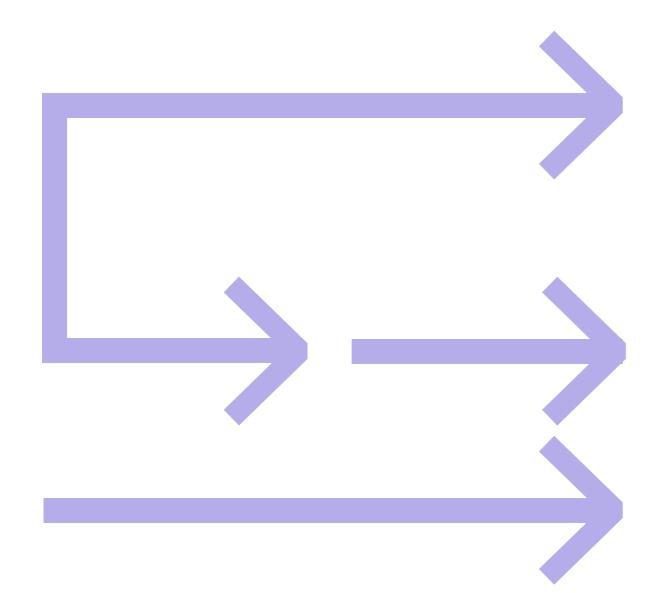
When a Final Report becomes an Interim Report

In other situations, a review process may have concluded with a Final Report issued, but subsequent changes to the proposal may require an additional review session. If this occurs before a planning decision is made, the Panel may either confirm that it has no further advice to provide or may issue an Addendum to the Final Report covering the amendments made to the proposal after the Final Report was produced. Where an Addendum is produced, the local government should update the cover page of the Final Report to notate the issue of an Addendum and the date issued.

When an Interim Report is required for public consultation

In some cases, it may be necessary or appropriate to include an Interim Report as part of consultation material. If the local government requires this, the proponent should be informed before the consultation process commences and, preferably, agree. In this circumstance, the Interim Report should include be labelled 'Interim Report for consultation purposes only' and be accompanied by a statement that the review process is not finalised.

Establishing and Appointing a Panel





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Establishing and appointing a panel

Design review panels should be established when there is a recurring need for independent advice on the design quality of proposals. The type of panel, frequency of meetings and number of members may differ in accordance with the identified needs of the administration.

▶ Governance

The local government is responsible for the funding, establishment, operation and management of its DRP.

As outlined under *Pillars for Design Review* in Part 1, it is important that the LGDRP is impartial and apolitical. The Panel should be established as an independent body with an appropriate Terms of Reference and/or Local Planning Policy, and in accordance with the governance requirements of the *Local Government Act* 1995.

Once the decision to form a LGDRP is made, the type of panel should also be determined. Sufficient staffing and funding should be committed in line with the type of panel and volume of reviews expected.

A Panel may be selected from an established and pre-vetted common pool (if available) that can offer access to a wide range of design professionals reducing costs in establishing an individual panel pool for each local government.

Local government staff resourcing is critical to successful DRP operation. Gaps in staffing should be identified and addressed as part of the establishment of a LGDRP.

Funding

Adequate funding is required for the appointment (or re-appointment) of the panel pool and operational costs, including member remuneration and staff resourcing. Decisions made regarding the frequency of meetings and the number of panel pool members will impact the costs associated with the LGDRP. Requirements for the panel pool size and meeting frequency will differ between local governments, however, should generally align with the identified panel types below.

≯ Types of Panels and Sessions

Panel types are dependent on the level of development activity and local government classifications. When assessing the requirement for a panel, consider the table below for the best suited panel type.

	Panel type		
	Shared or joint local government panel Single local government panel		
	Shared or joint local government panels can be formed where contiguous local governments, or local governments with similar characteristics, development types, or future desired character may benefit from a common panel.	A design review panel dedicated to a local government area.	
Local government class	Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, Class 4	Class 4 Class 1, Class 2 (metro)	
Resourcing	Design review coordination forms part of another role OR	Dedicated Panel Coordinator recommended	
	Design review responsibilities are shared between management, administration staff and individual planning officers. A dedicated officers group with		
	representation from participating LGAs for operational requirements of the Panel.		
Chair and deputies	1 Chair and 1-2 additional Deputy Chairs	1 Chair and 1-2 additional Deputy Chairs	
Estimated review demand	ed review demand Monthly or less frequently Fortnightly to monthly		
Session Type	Face to Face / Online / Hybrid Face to Face / Online / Hybrid		

■ 3.1 Establishing and appointing a panel

▶ Appointing an LGDRP

When establishing the Design Review Panel pool or recruiting new Panel pool members, it is important to follow an objective and transparent appointment process.

Local governments should not appoint decision makers (including its own elected members) or employees to a Panel pool. Members of the public without relevant design or built environment qualifications and experience should not be appointed.

▶ Panel Pool expertise and structure

The panel pool size and composition should be determined by considering the likely number of reviews, requirements for subject expertise and possible conflicts of interest. Panel pool members can be selected from a Design Review Common pool established by the State (where available).

Having a larger pool expands the range and calibre of expertise available for a variety of project types, increases panellist availability as well as reduces the potential for conflicts of interest.

The panel pool should consist of sufficient members to accommodate the type of panel and class of local government. One Chair and one to two deputy Chairs should be nominated. This will help ensure availability and consistency in review processes and advice. Specific selection criteria relating to chairing should be included when appointing a Panel.

It is recommended that alongside diversity in member expertise and project experience, the Panel composition considers diversity in gender, age, and background. Caution should be exercised in appointing Panel pool members who are residents or landowners in the local government area due to a higher potential for conflicts of interest.

Panel pools are to include experts in the following disciplines related to design and built environment.

Essential:

- Architecture
- Landscape architecture
- Urban design

One or more of the following specialists:

- Heritage Architecture
- Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Sustainability (including environmental design, systems ecology, urban water expertise)
- Accessibility and universal design
- Transport planning
- Planning
- Public art
- Civil, structural and services engineering.

This may also be met when a member is qualified in more than one discipline

Expression of Interest process



Figure 7 Appointing a panel

Expressions of Interest (EOI) for panel membership should be sought from suitably capable professionals to determine a short-list of applicants. Clear selection criteria should form the basis of the EOI. Alternatively, and where available, a Panel may be selected from a pre-qualified common pool.

A LGDRP should clearly outline:

- Remuneration rates and standards for Panel members and Chairs
- Estimated time commitments for Panel members and Chairs
- Terms of Reference and/or Local Planning Policy (if available)
- Meeting calendar (if known or set)



Clifton and Central, by MJA Architects, Photographed by Pixel Collective.

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3.1

■ 3.1 Establishing and appointing a panel

Selection criteria

Undertaking a rigorous and transparent process in the establishment of a panel pool is critical to the process. This can be achieved through clear selection criteria. In addition to the inclusion of a brief professional profile, the following recommended selection criteria should be included:

Panel members

- Appropriate professional qualifications and expertise in the built environment including relevant specific project work.
- Where relevant, evidence or demonstrated eligibility for registration with an appropriate professional body or organisation.
- Ability to work constructively and collaboratively in a multi-disciplinary team.
- Understanding of the State's Planning Framework, relevant local government policies and development controls.
- Ability to analyse, evaluate and offer objective and constructive feedback on design quality issues of complex development applications and strategic planning matters. (This may be evidenced through board, practice or panel experience, or other means of peer review, including publications and relevant educational experience).
- Knowledge and understanding of probity requirements including conflicts of interest and confidentiality.
- High-level written and verbal communication skills and the ability to communicate clearly with design, development and planning professionals.
- Understanding of the local context and key issues that face local governments.

Additional criteria for Chairs

- Ability to lead and facilitate meetings, including time management and strong verbal communication skills.
- Ability to manage strong or conflicting views in meetings.
- Highly developed written communication skills.

Assessing applications

Having an appropriate selection panel will assist in assessing applications and making recommendations for appointment to the LGDRP. The selection panel should include appropriate local government officer representation and at least one member with expertise in design review. If required, a member with design review experience may be sought externally to the local government.

A template Expression of Interest Assessment Matrix has been developed to assist in the assessment of applications.

Interviews

In some instances, interviewing candidates may be desirable, particularly when considering the appointment of a Chair or Deputy Chair.

It is recommended to follow the same interview process for each shortlisted applicant to maintain fairness and rigor. This includes:

- Set questions
- Interview length
- Interview panel (usually the full selection panel)

Finalising the selection process

Once the panel pool members are selected, their expertise and experience should be recorded in the <u>Session Panel Curation Matrix</u> for ease of session panel curation.

Following the completion of the selection process and any associated legislative requirements, all details of the appointment, including remuneration and time commitment, should be confirmed in writing and member induction scheduled.

Member induction

An induction process should be undertaken when new panels are established, or when new members are appointed.

Induction topics should include:

- Introduction of panel members, local government officers, and their roles and responsibilities.
- Training requirements, including opportunities for new members to observe a design review session.
- Introduction to the SPP 7.0 Design Principles for guiding the design review process.
- Overview of the Design Review Pillars.
- Explanation of administrative procedures including agenda circulation, minutes and reports, how to make requests for additional information and attendance at site visits.
- Access to relevant policies and documents, including the Terms of Reference.
- Governance requirements such as confidentiality, conflicts of interest and media protocols.

- Overview of significant current or upcoming proposals, redevelopment areas, and anticipated activity zones, with a focus on strategic intent and design quality.
- Review session schedule.
- Payment arrangements.

Panel remuneration

Panel members should be paid appropriately for their time. This includes preparation, the review session and contributions to reports. An hourly rate is recommended, providing flexibility for meeting duration dependent on the number of items or the complexity of proposals that may require more time in preparation and/or reporting.

The Chair rate should recognise the additional responsibility of the role. Additional time spent by the Chair editing and preparing reports should be paid accordingly at the hourly rate.

Sufficient preparation time should be allowed and allocated per review item, not per meeting. If site visits are required by the local government, they should be remunerated.

Remuneration rates should be outlined in the panel's terms of reference.

Estimated time requirements for Panel members:

	Meeting Duration	Number of items	Hours of preparation (per meeting)	Hours of report contribution (per item)
Panel members	Up to 3 hours	2-3	1 hour (1-2 items) 1.5 hours (3 items)	0-0.5
Chair			1 hour (1-2 items) 1.5 hours (3 items)	1.5 hours

Design Review Panel pools should not include:

- Community members without design qualifications or experience.
- Elected members or local government officers employed by the municipality.

Terms used

Chair: The design review panel member appointed as Chair. They will usually be the Session Chair for a project review unless they are unavailable or have a conflict of interest.

Deputy Chair: one to two design review panel members appointed as Deputy Chairs. They can be the Session Chair for a project review depending on availability, conflicts and expertise.

Session Chair: A Chair or Deputy Chair who will chair a design review session for a specific project. The Session Chair should remain the same for all reviews of a project unless completely unavoidable.

Minutes: Administrative minutes capture details of the design review session including attendance, apologies, meeting time and duration.

Design Review Report: A record of the Panel's critique and advice against the SPP 7.0 Ten Design Principles. It is not a verbatim record of the design review session.

Design Review Panel Pool: A discrete selection of panel members identified to provide design review services to a local government or joint local government Design Review Panel.

Design Review Common Pool: A multi-disciplinary pool of pre-qualified professionals to resource Design Review Panels.

Design Review: A process of review conducted by a multi-disciplinary panel of qualified professionals established by a regulatory authority and typically addresses an entire proposal rather than specific elements

Design Advice: Professional advice provided by an appropriately qualified individual typically relating to a specific design element of a proposal.

Figure list

Figure 1: Local Government Design Review Manual relationship with SPP 7.0

Figure 2: Interconnected design principles

Figure 3: Design review timing

Figure 4: Design review participants

Figure 5: Quick guide to effective design review

Figure 6: LGDRP reporting formats

Figure 7: Appointing a panel

Figure 8: Reporting timeline

Figure 9: Typical design outputs and the review discussion

Resources

List of templates available online:

- 1. Agenda
- 2. Design Review Material Checklist
- 3. Design Review Scalability Tool
- 4. Expression of Interest Assessment Matrix
- 5. Final Report
- 6. Interim Report
- 7. Panel Briefing
- 8. Session Panel Selection Matrix
- 9. Terms of Reference

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