

DTI:Planning Review

From: Luke McCumiskey [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 August 2022 1:39 PM
To: DTI:Planning Review
Subject: Feedback on Planning System - an Environmental Health Officer's experience

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Hello Review team.

I work for a regional Council and the impact that the new planning scheme has had for me as an Environmental Health Officer has on the whole been a negative one.

This is mainly due to the need for Council to still receive wastewater applications out-side the planning portal and the confusion and inconsideration of waste in many people's development applications.

Whilst waste water may only be a minor part of development considerations in the city and suburbs, this is not the case with regional settings; especially as many of our townships (Strathalbyn; Goolwa; Middleton; Port Elliot; Milang; Mount Compass; Langhorne Creek; and Clayton Bay) require septic tanks and/or onsite wastewater disposal in some or all of these places.

The often considerable space that these systems take up on a property can greatly impact the development envelope available; however, this is rarely taken into account by many of the applicants at the initial design phase, leading to conflict and unhappiness when Council Health Officers need to make them aware that their development is inappropriate for that site.

Furthermore, Private Certifier's especially, and some builders, give applicants a false sense of how quickly their applications should pass through the portal, and the applicants are often bemused and angry with Council when these unrealistic expectations are not met.

At present it is too easy for people submitting portal applications to tick a box and make chasing up a complying waste system as a priority, Council's problem.

Consequently, I believe demonstrating a complying waste needs to be given greater emphasis as part of the Portal Scheme, especially in areas outside the Adelaide's SA Water Sewer areas.

Regards

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