

WHAT THE NEW PLANNING SCHEME AIMS TO ACHIEVE

The draft IPA planning scheme identifies how development is to be assessed, and identifies the outcomes of the planning process sought to be achieved in the shire. This forms the context for assessing development.

The outcomes to be achieved are identified at a number of levels. These are the levels of importance to be considered in the first instance. They can relate to the whole of the shire, or to parts of the shire, or to individual sectors or blocks of land.

At the highest level are the desired environmental outcomes for the whole of the shire (or for a particular part of it).

These generally relate to overall issues such as use of the shire's resources, coordination between infrastructure services and land use, natural and scenic attributes of areas, water quality, cultural heritage, efficient settlement and so on.

At the next level are particular groups of outcomes relating to matters covered by codes. So far there are codes relating to economic resources, biodiversity, catchment management, natural hazard management and transport and energy corridors.

The third level of outcomes involves a group of codes that relate to specific land uses. There are seventeen of these currently proposed, including aquaculture, home-based business, kennels and catteries, stables and signage.

At the lowest level of outcomes are the acceptable solutions for meeting the specific requirements of a code. These are set out in development tables for the various zones.