



Establishing the

RIVERLAND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PANEL

Presented by
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Prior to 26th February 2007

Renmark Paringa Council – 6 members – all Elected Members

Berri Barmera Council – 5 members – all Elected Members

District Council of Loxton Waikerie – 7 members – all Elected Members



Requirements - From 26th February 2007

Each Council

- Independent Chair
- Three Elected Members
- Three Independent Members



Around November 2006

- Each Council sought expressions of interest for independent members
- Limited success
- Lack of suitable skill sets
- Councils met with view to establishing a Regional DAP



ADVANTAGES IDENTIFIED

- Fewer skilled persons required for one regional panel
- Greater opportunity to get the right people
- Reduced costs (members allowances and travelling costs)
- New regional co-operative approach to Development Assessment



- January 2007 – Approach made to the Minister for exemption from requirements of Section 56A to establish new Council DAPs.
- 23rd January 2007 – Minister granted first exemption to the three Councils until 26th August 2007
- Required the establishment of separate Council Development Assessment Committees comprising of five elected members
- Subsequently we received several extensions on our exemption up until the last to 31/1/2009



Councils initial proposal on membership of the Regional DAP was for: -

- an Independent Chair
- 2 Elected members from each Council

Our argument was that in the consideration of any one Council's application there would be four independent members plus the chair considering that application.

Minister rejected that proposal and required: -

- An Independent Chair
- One (1) Independent member plus one (1) Elected Member from each Council
- A total of Seven (7) members

Ministers requirement accepted by Councils in February 2008.



- April 2008 we were advised that the Department would prepare Draft Regulations. Standard Terms of Reference and Meeting Procedures
- April 2008 Council's agreed on the appointment of Bruce Ballantyne as the Independent Chair (subject to Minister's approval)
- Council's commenced recruitment of their independent member and appointment of their Elected Member representative
- Subsequently each Council was able to appoint an Independent Member
- Renmark Paringa appointed a qualified Town Planner from a regional council, Berri Barmera Council a local person with an Environmental Management background and D/C Loxton Waikerie a local person with a background in Real Estate.
- Term of Office for all Members – 2 years



- August 2008 – The Council's were presented with Draft Regulations (which included regulations for two other Councils) for comment and subsequently accepted them.
- September 2008 – Advice received that one of the other Councils had a problem with the Draft Regulations and they would need further work.
- December 2008 – To maintain all Councils commitment we all agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding.
- June 2009 – DPLG provided us with a grant of \$15,000 to assist with establishment costs, training costs etc.
- September 2009 – Minister forwarded further Draft Regulations for comment and these were also agreed by the Riverland Councils.



- 10th December 2009 the Regulations were Gazetted and the Minister approved of our Independent Chair.
- Councils signed off on Delegations and adopted Terms of Reference for the Panel
- December 2009 Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel members met for the first time to undertake training
- March 2010 – Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel held its first formal meeting and adopted its Operational and Meeting Procedures, appointed a Deputy Chair and Public Officer.



Administrative Arrangements

- One Council, on a twelve month rotational basis, provides the administrative support to the Panel.
- Prepares Agendas, collates Council reports, prepares Minutes.
- Provides their Chief Executive Officer as Public Officer to the Panel.
- Independent Chair receives Sitting Fee of \$700 inclusive of travelling expenses which are shared equally by three Councils
- Each Council responsible for the sitting fees and travelling for their members. Sitting fee is \$150 per meeting.
- Meetings venue generally at the host Council however that may change subject to inspections to be undertaken, if any.



QUESTIONS?



Further Information on the Regional Panel is available on the following web sites: -

www.renmarkparinga.sa.gov.au

www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au

Further Regional co-operation – Development Plan Alignment Project