

PLANNING FACT SHEET

Referral of Planning Applications



Some planning permit applications may require a referral to a range of different authorities. Under Section 55 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the Victorian Planning Provisions, Council refers the application to these authorities for their consideration.

Referral to an authority can be triggered by

- the type of development (eg. works in a Special Water Supply Catchment or stone extraction)
- the zone a property is in (eg. the Urban Floodway Zone)
- an overlay that applies to the property (eg. a Bushfire Management Overlay or a Significant Landscape Overlay) a particular provision (eg. creation of an access on a VicRoads road)

Referral authorities play an important role in the operation of the Victorian planning system.

Some of the referral authorities and their areas of expertise in Murrindindi Shire include (but are not limited to)

- Country Fire Authority (CFA) – for consideration of bushfire risk and creation of new roads in subdivisions.
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) – for consideration of removal of native vegetation and works on public land.
- Department of Transport – as the authority for main roads within the municipality.
- Goulburn Murray Water – as the authority for water in rural areas.

- Goulburn Valley Water – as the authority for water in residential areas.
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority – as the authority for river health, floodplain and vegetation management.
- AusNet Services – as the authority for electricity in the municipality.
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) – as the authority for matters relating to environmental risks.

Referral authorities are given 28 days to provide a response to an application. The Murrindindi Planning Scheme details whether the authority is a 'recommending' or a 'determining' authority. A recommending authority provides advice for Council to consider as part of the assessment of a planning application. A determining authority provides information that must be included as part of the conditions of a planning application.

If you have any questions about any referrals that may be required as part of your application, we encourage you to contact us on (03) 5772 0333 or via email at planning@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

This information sheet is to be used as a general guide only. Council has made all reasonable effort to ensure the information provided in this is true and accurate. However, we recommend that you seek professional advice before acting or making decisions on the basis of this information. For any questions or clarification, please contact Council's Planning Unit.

