

Media Release



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UDIA SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PANELS

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) (WA) welcomed the Minister for Planning's release today of the discussion paper on the introduction of Development Assessment Panels (DAPs).

DAPs are a panel of independent experts and local government representatives convened to make decisions regarding whether development applications are compliant with state and local government policies. They will make decisions on relevant development applications on behalf of local government and the WA Planning Commission.

At this time DAPs will predominantly assess applications for commercial, retail and office applications, industrial facilities, mixed use and multiple dwelling units.

"The structure proposed will see around two percent of projects being processed through DAPs with the focus on significant or complicated projects," UDIA CEO Debra Goostrey said. "This will help depoliticise planning decisions and streamline the approvals process for those projects."

"Delays cost developers time and therefore money during the development process. Costs which are unavoidably passed on to the end purchaser," Ms Goostrey said.

"At the end of the day DAPs will provide greater certainty to the development industry in regard to the timeliness of approvals."

"The introduction of DAPs will assist to contain costs for the purchaser," Ms Goostrey said. "This will be particularly important for urban infill projects where local politics can delay good projects for years."

End.

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