

## FACT SHEET

# Code Assessment

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### *What is Code Assessment?*

Code Assessment is defined within the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*. Code Assessment "means the assessment of development by the assessment manager (Council) only against the common material and applicable codes" of the relevant Fraser Coast Regional Council Planning Schemes.

### *Stages of Code Assessment*

Under the Integrated Development Assessment System (IDAS) there are a number of stages that are applicable to a Code Assessable Development Application. These stages are listed below:

- Application (application is lodged with Council);
- Information and Referral (application is reviewed and further information may be requested by Council or a Referral Agency, where applicable); and
- Decision (stage where Council makes a decision on whether the development application is to be approved).

Public Notification is not required in the Code Assessment process.

### *The Code Assessment Process*

Code Assessment involves the assessment of a development application by Council against the relevant codes within the relevant Fraser Coast Regional Council Planning Scheme. For code assessable development an application and development permit is required before development can start. Code assessable development is assessed against the applicable Locality Code, Specific Use Code (if any) and the Other Codes relevant to the application.

For code assessment the acceptable solutions in the relevant codes represent one way of meeting the performance criteria. There may also be other ways of complying with the performance criteria while still meeting the code's purpose. A proposal that does not comply with an acceptable solution, must demonstrate that the proposed solution meets the relevant performance criteria and purpose of the code. Where no acceptable solution is specified, compliance with the performance criteria must be demonstrated.

The applications are generally decided by senior Council staff who have been specially granted delegated authority by Council to decided applications of this nature. In instances where the application is contentious, "of interest" or it demonstrates substantial non-compliance with the relevant codes, the application will be referred to the Planning and Development Committee of the Council for a decision.

### *Need Further Information*

For further specific information and procedures on code assessment contact the Duty Planner on 1300 794 929.