

PIA Planet Training Course

Sustainability Provisions in the Planning Scheme

5 March 2019



Event: PIA (Vic) Planet Course: Sustainability Provisions in the Planning Scheme
See training objectives and program on Page 3.

Venue: PIA (Vic), Level 3. 124 Exhibition St, Melbourne 3000

19 people attended the seminar.

19 evaluation forms were received and answers are compiled below . 100% response rate.

The session was facilitated by Sheridan Blunt from Loci Environment & Place and Vickie Huang from LID Consulting. A guest presentation was provided by Natasha Palich from the Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environments.

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| 1. Out of 5, how satisfied were participants with this seminar? | Average 4.3 |
| 2. Out of 5, how likely were participants to recommend this seminar? | Average 4.4 |
| 3. Out of 5, how well did participants feel the stated objectives were met? | Average 4.3 |
| 4. Out of 5, how satisfied were participants that they had enough time? | Average 4.2 |
| 5. Out of 5, how well did participants feel that discussion was encouraged? | Average 4.4 |
| 6. Out of 5, how knowledgeable did participants feel the facilitators were? | Average 4.4 |

Response: these scores are even higher than previous years and it is likely due to the improved hands-on nature of the sustainability assessment activity designed by Vickie from LID Consulting. The high score is also likely due to the fact that attendees are primarily all from the one discipline (see below). It is harder to get high scores with a multi-disciplinary crowd (because some attendees will find the sessions relating to their core knowledge less interesting). Loci acknowledges this as a tradeoff for the benefits of working with the perspective of other disciplines in resolving urban sustainability challenges.

7. What was the disciplinary background of the participants attending this seminar?

Participant background	No
Strategic Urban Planning	1
Statutory Urban Planning	15
Environmental Planning	2
Ecological Sustainable Design	1
Ecology and Conservation	1



8. This session was designed to cover the bigger context before delving into detail. Out of 10, how well did participants feel the bigger picture helped their understanding of sustainability? Average 7.9

Comments

- More detailed information and practical hands-on assessment would be good.
- More explanation on SDA, SMP and GTP and how to assess. Provide a glossary of terms at the beginning.
- What policies are in place to enforce sustainability provisions (eg conditions on permits/local laws)
- More detail on education for community and cost/benefit analysis.
- Session was very Council focused and more on the experience/views of consultants would be helpful.

Response: most of these requests are limited by the shortage of time available to cover everything. The 'glossary' and greater 'consultant perspectives' are an important idea for future training sessions to incorporate.

9. **What workshops sessions were considered most beneficial for participants?** More than one could be selected.

5% Reminder of environmental context, global and local role	22% Opportunities for questions and feedback with specialists
22% Learning more about existing Victorian Planning System links with environment	8% Learning from, and networking with fellow participants.
39% Learning more ESD provisions and assessment	5% Other – learning more about BESS tool

Response: Loci understands that the broader environmental and global context does not score well but feels that it is important for this to be covered. Whilst it may not be greatly valued, we hope that it sends a message and guides future thinking. Learning from other participants usually scores higher and is perhaps a reflection of the similar background of attendees.

10. **What changes do you think today's session will generate for you?** More than one could be selected.

18% Information and momentum to pursue sustainability initiatives in general (policy, projects, monitoring, communications, etc)	32% Information and momentum to pursue planning controls for sustainability	41% Information to advocate for more progressive urban planning solutions (moving away from 'path dependency')	9% No changes. Today was introductory only.
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Response: No changes was only ticked by an environmental planner and an ESD planners. All statutory planners indicated they would undertake some action following the course. It would be great to undertake follow up survey.

FYI – Session Program

Tuesday 5 March 2019

Sustainability provisions in planning schemes

Loci Environment & Place Inc. is a nonprofit change agent supporting knowledge growth and sharing among practitioners involved in shaping our cities for healthier environments and people.



Event: [Sustainability Provisions in Planning Schemes](#)

Attendees: State government environment policy and planning systems officers, local government planners, environmental planners, consultants. Designed for people working with existing ESD controls, or for those considering their future application.

Content

Planning scheme controls with links to sustainability rating tools are playing an increasing role for cities in response to climate change, population growth and environmental pressures.

This course is designed to help planners apply current environmental planning provisions while also addressing ways future urban planning policies, controls and rating tools can keep improving to better achieve environmental objectives.

Learning Outcomes

- Provides Victorian context for current and potential site specific environmental controls
- Provides statutory planners with outline of steps needed to meet relevant State and Local Planning Policies for Environmental Sustainable Urban Design (ESD), Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD).
- Provides strategic planners with practical knowledge and guidance to pursue planning scheme controls for sustainability and supporting systems to ensure their successful application.
- Provides environmental planners with an understanding of statutory planning processes and procedures.
- The session will provide an overview of the BESS and STORM tools (however will not do this in detail).

We want attendees to leave the event:

- Knowing how the existing Victorian ESD and WSUD controls work
- Knowing how the existing ESD and WSUD controls could work better in future