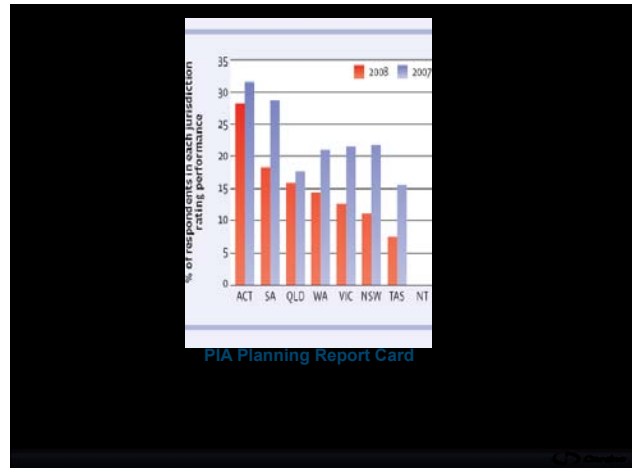


Scorecard assessment of WA's strategic land use planning:
has the past decade seen less sustainable planning?

Can we apply a scorecard to WA's strategic land use planning effort over the past decade?



Why not a scorecard?

Signposts for strategic LUP

State Sustainability Strategy:
WA's settlements are among the most attractive places to live, constantly becoming more innovative and efficient in their use of resources and management of wastes while simultaneously being more liveable and equitable.

→ Government's sustainability goals and priority areas for action

SSS Goal 4
Plan and provide settlements that reduce the ecological footprint and enhance quality of life at the same time

- Managing urban & regional growth
- Revitalising declining centres & suburbs
- Integrating land use & transport
- Managing freight & regional transport
- Preserving air quality
- Reducing & managing waste
- Our water future
- Sustainable energy
- Preserving cultural heritage & landscapes & creating 'sense of place'
- Building sustainability

Signposts for strategic LUP

State Planning Strategy:

Acceptance of the principles of sustainability require that we do not squander our finite resources and we seek a balance between economic, social and environmental objectives.

State Planning Strategy

Whole of Government approach:

... "provides a framework for ongoing strategic planning decisions by providing flexibility to respond to changes. New issues will emerge and will be addressed every three years to keep the strategy relevant."

SPS Strategic planning approach

The Planning Process implemented through a strategic framework.

- State Planning Policies
- State Land Use Coordination for Resource Management
- Review of Planning Legislation
- Strategic Emphasis to Planning

What's happened?

SPS:

- State Planning Policies ✓
- State Land Use Coordination for Resource Management ?
- Review of Planning Legislation ✓
- Strategic Emphasis to Planning ✓

SSS

- Managing urban & regional growth ✓
- Revitalising declining centres & suburbs ✓
- Integrating land use & transport ✓
- Managing freight & regional transport ✓
- Preserving air quality ?
- Reducing & managing waste ?
- Our water future ✓
- Sustainable energy ?
- Preserving cultural heritage & landscapes & creating 'sense of place' ?/✓
- Building sustainability ?/✓



Public participation in planning

Sustainable outcomes?

- Doubts about the sustainability of outcomes:

"Urban sprawl, characterised by clearing and landscape change, has led to expressions of concern in the community and in professional discussion."

Margaret Grose, Australian Planner 47 (1) March 2010

Where to from here?

- A revitalised State Planning Strategy
- Planning Reform Agenda
- Tools for measuring sustainability

But more importantly, will sustainability become central to new suburban design?

Has there been less sustainable planning over the past ten years?

- There's been effort
- Ongoing processes of reflection, audit and improvement
- Distraction by external forces of change
- Budgetary & portfolio limitations
- Heightened community interest
- Lack of indicators

Much more needs to be done if we are to be able to say that the wellbeing of future generations is not be threatened by poor valuation of the environment.

Ken Henry 4 March 2010

