SA's planning system will soon be online

Around the world, people are using online systems to access a wealth of information that helps them improve their lives, manage their finances or order products and services.

Government departments and businesses are increasingly using online systems to deliver services efficiently and effectively. It is vital that South Australians can readily access essential planning information electronically.

South Australia new online planning platform (ePlanning) will support people at critical moments, whether they are homeowners who are buying, selling or renovating, developers investing and building or professional planners assessing applications.

As of mid-2020 everyone will have the planning information they need at their fingertips and be able to access the planning system using their computer, mobile phone or tablet.

Moving our planning system and services online will reduce costs for applicants and Councils.

Importantly, the new system will deliver faster decisions that support our state to grow. ePlanning will revolutionise all planning processes and inform good development to help shape the state's future.

A simple streamlined interface will allow anyone to lodge, monitor and receive decisions online.

This means faster approvals, easier to understand planning and zoning rules, more certainty for complex applications from the outset, ready access to information and more transparency in how applications are progressing. These improvements will result in greater confidence in development application assessment processes and also reduce appeals on decisions.

Bringing our planning system into the 21st century will attract more investment, encourage world-class development and continue to position South Australia as a great place to live and do business.

What ePlanning offers

DPTI's online solution will incorporate the current SA planning database, online atlas and search facility.

At the same time as the new web interface is being developed, a Planning and Design Code is being written to replace the 72 development plans currently in operation across the state with a unified, coherent set of planning regulations.

The Code will be the single source of all rules and guidelines which determine development outcomes.

When an online applicant needs to know how their proposal will be assessed, an electronic response will provide them with all the critical information they require about regulations at their specific site, within a specified zone and whether these planning regulations will be affected by other issues including overlays, such as when applicants are developing in an area of high bushfire risk.

This will create a faster, more efficient planning service that brings together evaluation of applications across local councils, unifying agencies and individual users, offering a consistent assessment approach state-wide.

Your window to ePlanning

The SA Planning Portal - *saplanningportal.sa.gov.au* - is the access point for ePlanning and the repository for all practitioner information and services for planning and development in South Australia.

By 2020, the website will be the 'one-stop shop' for all development applications for the state.The planning portal will offer access to mapping services, contemporary development data and an online register of all accredited professionals who make decisions on development applications.

The SA Planning Portal will also offer homeowners useful tools such as Virtual House, an interactive graphic illustration that highlights types of development which do not require approvals. For planning professionals, the portal will also include the latest planning news and updates across the industry, and tracking of Planning and Design Code amendments as the Code evolves. Further features will become available as they are tested and released.

The ePlanning system is currently in the development and testing stage, and is expected to be fully functional by mid-2020. The plan for the operation of the planning portal's online process is shown below.

If you want to know more about ePlanning, you can read our ePlanning FAQ containing commonly asked questions about the new online system, and our responses about how it will be used by professional planners, developers and members of the community.