

## **55.01 NEIGHBOURHOOD AND SITE DESCRIPTION AND DESIGN RESPONSE**

An application must be accompanied by:

- A neighbourhood and site description.
- A design response.

### **55.01-1 Neighbourhood and site description**

The neighbourhood and site description may use a site plan, photographs or other techniques and must accurately describe:

- In relation to the neighbourhood:
  - The pattern of development of the neighbourhood.
  - The built form, scale and character of surrounding development including front fencing.
  - Architectural and roof styles.
  - Any other notable features or characteristics of the neighbourhood.
- In relation to the site:
  - Site shape, size, orientation and easements.
  - Levels of the site and the difference in levels between the site and surrounding properties.
  - The location of existing buildings on the site and on surrounding properties, including the location and height of walls built to the boundary of the site.
  - The use of surrounding buildings.
  - The location of secluded private open space and habitable room windows of surrounding properties which have an outlook to the site within 9 metres.
  - Solar access to the site and to surrounding properties.
  - Location of significant trees existing on the site and any significant trees removed from the site 12 months prior to the application being made, where known.
  - Any contaminated soils and filled areas, where known.
  - Views to and from the site.
  - Street frontage features such as poles, street trees and kerb crossovers.
  - The location of local shops, public transport services and public open spaces within walking distance.
  - Any other notable features or characteristics of the site.

If in the opinion of the responsible authority a requirement of the neighbourhood and site description is not relevant to the evaluation of an application, the responsible authority may waive or reduce the requirement.

### **Satisfactory neighbourhood and site description**

The responsible authority must inform the applicant in writing:

- Before notice of an application is given, or
- If notice of an application is not required to be given, before deciding the application, that the neighbourhood and site description meets the requirements of Clause 55.01-1 and is satisfactory or does not meet the requirements of Clause 55.01-1 and is not satisfactory.

If the responsible authority decides that the neighbourhood and site description is not satisfactory, it may require more information from the applicant under Section 54 of the Act.

The responsible authority must not require notice of an application to be given or decide an application until it is satisfied that the neighbourhood and site description meets the requirements of Clause 55.01-1 and is satisfactory.

This does not apply if the responsible authority refuses an application under Section 52(1A) of the Act.

## **55.01-2 Design response**

The design response must explain how the proposed design:

- Derives from and responds to the neighbourhood and site description.
- Meets the objectives of Clause 55.
- Responds to any neighbourhood character features for the area identified in a local planning policy or a Neighbourhood Character Overlay.

The design response must include correctly proportioned street elevations or photographs showing the development in the context of adjacent buildings. If in the opinion of the responsible authority this requirement is not relevant to the evaluation of an application, it may waive or reduce the requirement.