Do I need approval?

Planning Fact Sheet 2

If you undertake “development” you may require Development Approval.

Some examples of development are:

- building or extending a house
- shed or garage
- verandah
- carport
- dependent accommodation/granny flat
- demolition
- retaining wall
- fence over 2.1m high
- signs
- swimming pools
- change of use of land
- farm buildings

According to the Development Act 1993, development can be any of the following:

- building work;
- change in the use of the land, eg. An office to a retail shop or a change of crop from wheat to olives;
- the division of an allotment;
- the construction or alteration of a road; and
- changes to a Local or State heritage place;

As developments such as buildings can stand for many years, the role of Development Assessment Planning is important. Development Assessment Planning is the process which development needs to go through to determine if it can be granted Development Approval. Development Assessment Planners are the people who manage this process.

Undertaking development may require a Development Application depending on the type, scale and location of the development. If development requires Development Approval, it is illegal to undertake the development without first obtaining Development Approval. If you do not obtain Development Approval when it is needed you may face prosecution or be fined. If you are unsure whether the activity you wish to undertake is development you should check with Council.

Further Information

The above information is advisory and only a guide to give you a general understanding of the key issues associated with needing approval.

For further information or assistance, please contact Council’s Development Services Department on 8539 1414 or planning@murraybridge.sa.gov.au