

# CAPABILITY STATEMENT



## PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

### INTRODUCTION

There is nothing easy about navigating the complex layers of planning and environmental regulation and policy and the political drivers that control and influence development. Fortunately, AJ & Co. are here to help.

Above all else, the Planning and Environment team at AJ & Co. are passionate. They want to work with you, and understand your drivers, in order to achieve the best possible outcome.

Led by Wendy Evans, a Partner with unparalleled experience as a town planner, in public and private sectors, and as a tier one legal practitioner, our team brings together a broad range of practical knowledge and a depth of technical expertise.

Our focus is on providing the highest quality legal advice and representation, timely results, and building partnerships for the future.

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

We have experience acting for developers, state and local governments, and a variety of private clients in relation to all aspects of the planning and environment law, including:



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### ENVIRONMENT

Our experience spans both state and federal government environmental laws, including the regulation of:

- Environmental compliance;
- Duties to notify;
- Environmental authorities and environmentally relevant activities;
- Landfills and landfill gas migration;
- Vegetation clearing;
- Quarries;
- Protected species;
- Penalty infringement notices;
- Enforcement; and
- Federal (EPBC Act) referral.

### STATUTORY PLANNING

Wendy's niche experience in statutory planning includes the drafting and review of major planning documents for various local governments and the Queensland State Government. Accordingly, we have unrivalled experience in:

- Planning scheme reviews;
- Advice on amendments to planning documents;
- Infrastructure charges resolution reviews;
- Development of model and standard conditions; and
- Advice on legislative and policy reform.

### GOVERNMENT

In addition to statutory planning, we have experience in:

- Acting for local governments and the Queensland State Government in planning and environment litigation;
- Review, drafting, and amendment of local laws;
- Advice regarding local government statutory responsibilities, including procurement and delegations;
- Review of template enforcement documents (cause and enforcement notices);
- Advice regarding enforcement processes;
- Enforcement action for compliance with local laws; and
- Workshop partnerships and presentations to industry, government, and elected representatives.



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### PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

We have experience advising and acting for clients from project conception to implementation, including:

- Development strategy and application review and restructure;
- Project due diligence;
- General advice on all aspects of planning and development;
- Use characterisation;
- Approval negotiation;
- Conditions drafting;
- Properly made submissions,
- Infrastructure agreements and negotiation;
- Declaratory action, including technical statutory interpretation questions;
- Planning and Environment Court litigation;
- Mediations and negotiations;
- Infrastructure charges appeals; and
- Conversion appeals.

### MAJOR PROJECTS

We have undertaken the following work in relation to major projects:

- Due diligence enquiries for major infrastructure projects, including rail and pumped hydro;
- Litigation for solar farm developments; and
- Environmental compliance advice.

