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**1. PREAMBLE**

The Development Application Policy provides guidance for ensuring fairness and equity in the assessment of applications previously adjudicated by the Holdfast Bay Development Assessment Panel.

**1.1 Background**

Council adopted a Development Application Policy (the Policy) following State Government requirements for the establishment of Development Assessment Panels (the Panel), as a means to ensure that both proponents and representors received fair and equitable assessments.

**1.2 Purpose**

This policy provides a set of principles to be used to avoid bias in the assessment of Development Applications

**1.3 Scope**

This policy applies to all development applications where the Development Assessment Panel is the relevant decision making authority.

**1.4 Definitions**

*A Development Application* is an application that has been lodged with Council for the purposes of development as defined by the *Development Act 1993*

**1.5 Strategic Reference**

Placemaking: Creating vibrant and safe places  
 Placemaking: Building character and celebrating history  
 Placemaking: Housing a diverse population

**2. PRINCIPLES**

To avoid bias in the processing of Development Applications, Council has resolved that where a Development Officer (Planning) has expressed an opinion or presented a recommendation in relation to a Development Application with which Council’s Development Assessment Panel has ultimately not concurred in its decision(s); and subsequent development application is made for the same land (or portions of it) and for a proposal similar to that previously considered, then the Officer in question shall not be

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responsible for the administrative processing or formulation of report(s) and/or recommendation(s) in relation to the later proposal.

## 3. REFERENCES

### 3.1 Legislation

- *Development Act 1993*
- *Development Regulations 2008*
- *Local Government Act 1999*

### 3.2 Other References

- Holdfast Bay Council Development Plan