

Government Land Standing Advisory Committee Member Biographies – March 2022

Surname	First Name	Biography
Lead Chair		
Townsend	Lester	Lester was appointed as Senior Panel Member in 2005, following several years as a sessional member. He has undergraduate qualifications in town and regional planning and post graduate qualifications in sociology. Lester has significant expertise in strategic and statutory planning, project implementation and plain English communication and drafting. He has previously worked in the Local Government and private sectors. Lester is a Fellow of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association.
Chairs		
Hellsten	Tim	Tim holds a Bachelor of Town and Regional Planning (Hons) and qualifications in Management and Project Management. He has over 30 years experience in statutory and strategic planning in local government and private industry predominantly within regional Victoria. Tim's experience includes heritage and urban design, rural area and coastal planning, activity centre and growth area planning. Tim is a Fellow of the Planning Institute of Australia and former member of the Central Coastal Board. Tim has been a Senior Panel member since August 2018.
Kendal	Lisa	Lisa is an experienced environment and planning professional, who has worked for over 25 years in local government, private practice and the not-for-profit sector. Most recently Lisa was Manager Strategic Planning at the City of Ballarat and was a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria from 2015 – 2017. She holds a Master Environmental Science and a Master of Social Science (Environment and Planning), and has expertise in strategic planning, rural and regional planning, open space planning, sustainable development and community engagement. Lisa is a member of the Planning Institute of Australia and the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association. Lisa is Ballarat based and in 2019 she was honoured to be awarded the Female Achiever of the Year Award from the Planning Institute of Australia.
McFarlane	Alison	Alison McFarlane has over 25 years of experience in land use planning and expert knowledge and skill in leading planning projects and development assessment. She holds post graduate qualifications in town planning. Alison joined Planning Panels Victoria as a Senior Panel Member in March 2022. She has previously held senior roles with the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning including as Regional Director, Grampians. Alison is a member of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association.

Deputy Chairs		
Ballock	Michael	Michael is an experienced Planner Geographer and Economist. He has worked as a planner for over 35 years in the government and private sectors, taught planning at universities and has also undertaken senior executive roles in local government. He was first appointed as a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria from 1987 to 1998 and again in January 2016 and has been appointed to a broad range of matters including Environmental Effects Statement Advisory Committees. In private practice he has helped prepare Environmental Effects Statements and represented local government at EES hearings. He has extensive experience in strategic planning, environmental assessment and development impacts. Michael has extensive leadership and management experience at senior level in the government, education and private sectors. He has thorough understanding of implications of decisions that need to balance competing interests. He is a former committee member and a full of the member Planning Institute of Australia. He is a member of the Victorian Planning & Environmental Law Association and a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Michael is based in the north east suburbs of Melbourne operating as a consultant advising local government on strategic development issues.
Bell	Elissa	Elissa has qualifications in Science and Law. She has over 15 years' experience in environmental assessment specialising in environmental impact assessments and environmental and planning processes in both private and public sectors. In these roles, Elissa has written, reviewed and managed environmental impact assessments for mining and infrastructure projects in Australia and overseas. Elissa has been a Sessional Member of Planning Panels Victoria since 2018. Recently, Elissa has been a member of the following panels: Banyule C107, Yan Yean Road Upgrade (Stage 2) Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee and the Western Outer Ring Main Gas Pipeline Inquiry and Panel.
Elliott	Mandy	Mandy has qualifications in social science, applied science (environmental management) and environmental law. Mandy is a Principal Environmental Scientist with professional experience in the private and public sector, including ten years at the Department of Planning and Community Development within the Environmental Assessment Unit. From February 2010 Mandy has worked in the private sector as a consultant, based in the Geelong region and as Director of EnviroME Pty Ltd since 2011. Mandy has credentials in Environmental Impact Assessment and is the author of Environmental Impact Assessment in Australia: Theory and Practice 6th Ed. (February 2014). Mandy is a Certified Environmental Practitioner (Impact Assessment Specialist). Mandy has been a Sessional Member of Planning Panels Victoria since 2012 and has been a Member of a range of Panels, EES Inquiries and Advisory Committee's including Deputy Chair of the Government Land Standing Advisory Committee, Echuca-Moama Bridge IAC, the Melbourne Metro Rail Project IAC and West Gate Tunnel Project IAC.
Paul	Annabel	Annabel has over 20 years experience as a strategic and statutory planner primarily in the private sector. She has a Bachelor of Planning & Design (Hons) from Melbourne University and has held senior and associate roles in planning consultancies in Victoria and Tasmania and also worked in NSW. She now runs her own planning consultancy, AP Planning. Annabel has extensive statutory planning experience in a range of areas including residential, commercial and retail sectors throughout Victoria and across a range of municipalities. She has also worked in areas of precinct structure planning, compensation, and Planning Scheme Amendments. Annabel was appointed as a sessional Panel Member in December 2015.

Members		
Blades	Brodie	Brodie Blades is an experienced urban designer with over 10 years of experience in the private public sector. He is currently Director, Blades and previously an Associate Director, SJB Urban. Mr Blades has qualifications in Graduate Diploma Urban Design and Planning, University of Melbourne, and Bachelor of Applied Science (Planning), RMIT University.
Butcher	Debra	Debra is a statutory and strategic planner with significant town planning experience. She has worked on a diversity of projects throughout her career ranging from providing advice and obtaining approvals for residential projects (including greenfield subdivisions), retail proposals and education centres, through to undertaking environmental assessment and planning work for infrastructure projects including power lines, wind farms and quarries. Debra became a Sessional Panel Member at PPV in 2014 and in 2015 established her own consulting practice, having previously worked at a number of different Melbourne based planning consultancies. As a sessional Member, Debra has been involved in a range of Panels in both metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria and was a member of the Managing Residential Development Advisory Committee and the Social Housing Advisory Committee. Debra holds a Bachelor of Planning and Design (Hons) from the University of Melbourne.
Carruthers	Geoffrey	Geoffrey is an internationally accredited Chartered Professional Civil Engineer, with studies in Urban Planning and Management. He has been a sessional Member of Planning Panels Victoria since 2003, is a VCAT sessional Member (Planning & Environment) and has been appointed to a broad cross section of Ministerial Advisory Committee matters. He has experience in development, environmental and sustainability projects and government hearings, particularly relating to development impacts and appropriate strategic planning. He has consulted at the government/private sector interface in Australia, SE Asia, and USA. He is a past President of the Association of Development Executives Victoria, National Councillor of the Regional Science Association of Australia & New Zealand, a Member of the College of Civil Engineers, has APEC Engineer accreditation, and a Fellow of Engineers Australia.
Conway	Sally	Sally has a Bachelor of Commerce (economics stream) and postgraduate qualifications in urban policy and planning. She has extensive strategic and statutory planning experience within the Victorian Planning System and has worked in local government settings for more than 20 years, both in public and private practice. Sally's area of expertise is structure planning, economic and tourism development, rural land use planning, place making and coastal planning. She has significant experience with planning in areas considered to be at high risk from bushfire and with significant environmental and landscape values. Sally is a Member of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association.
Davies	Shannon	Shannon is a skilled planner with a wide range of experience in strategic and statutory planning in coastal, peri-urban, regional and rural contexts. She has practical experience working in strategic policy development, writing planning schemes and gaining development approvals. Shannon has a Bachelor of Science (Geology and Environment) from Monash University and a Master of Science (Planning and Environment) from RMIT.

Duff	Noelene	Noelene Duff was the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Whitehorse until August 2019. She is a Fellow of Australian Institute of Company Directors, Institute of Public Affairs Australia, Local Government Managers Australia and Local Government Professionals (Vic). Noelene has a Master of Business, Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Social Work. Her experience in local communities goes began as a social worker in inner city Melbourne in the early 1980's, followed by various management, planning and policy roles in the non-Government sector and the Victorian State Government in both the Premiers Department and the Department of Health. She worked at City of St Kilda managing their social service programs, City of Yarra, Monash Council. She is currently the lead Administrator for the City of Casey.
Edwards	Peter	Peter Edwards is an experienced engineer providing local and strategic traffic and civil engineering expertise to and for several local, and state agencies as well as private industry. He has extensive experience in feasibility and traffic impact assessments for various developments, traffic and transport planning issues and parking strategies and investigations, Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliance. Peter has previously worked in private practice at HDS Australia and John Piper Traffic, VicRoads, and a number of local councils. He has been involved in a range PPV matters since being appointed as a Sessional Member in 2015 including Central Geelong Framework Plan Advisory Committee, North East Link Inquiry and Advisory Committee, Fishermans Bend Advisory Committee, and Westfield Doncaster Development Plan. Peter has a Bachelor of Engineering, Graduate Diploma in Municipal Engineering and Business Administration, and is a Member of the Institute of Engineers Australia.
Gibbs	Meredith	Meredith is a skilled legal practitioner, specialising in planning & environment, water and climate change law. With over 25 years' experience, Meredith brings her strong analytical and conceptual skills together with demonstrated ability to provide advice in high-pressure, complex environments to Planning Panels Victoria. Meredith is recognised in Australia's <i>Best Lawyers</i> for her expertise in Planning & Environment Law, Climate Change Law (10-year award 2020; Lawyer of the Year 2011), Natural Resources Law, Government Practice and Energy Law. Her commercial law experience includes Partner in the planning & environment team at HWL Ebsworth, Special Counsel at global firms Baker McKenzie and Ashurst, and Senior Solicitor with Hesketh Henry lawyers. Meredith has also held positions as a Senior Lecturer in Planning Law at Massey University, Environmental Law Lecturer at the Universities of Auckland and Melbourne, and consultant to a Maori tribal authority.
Halaliku	Jonathan	Jonathan has undergraduate qualifications in Economics & International Trade. He holds post graduate qualifications and a Master of Environment & Planning. He has extensive experience in planning consultancy advising and acting on behalf of the State and Local Government interests, the private sector and community stakeholders. Jonathan has a comprehensive understanding of statutory and strategic planning and their coalescence of built form and design. In his past roles he regularly appeared at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal to provide advocacy and more recently, expert urban planning evidence. Jonathan is Board Member and Director of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Jonathan was appointed to Planning Panels in 2020.

Hartigan	John	John is a former senior executive in the Victorian public sector. He has been an advisor to the highest levels of government and has a track record of success in a career spanning 30 years in strategic planning, road and public transport project evaluation and assurance, public land management and stakeholder engagement. John holds an honours degree in civil engineering and a postgraduate diploma in public administration. He now works as a freelance consultant providing strategic advice on government policy and change management and project assurance and evaluation. John has previously held directorships on several public sector boards and is currently deputy chair of the Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management. He was appointed as a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria in January 2013 and has sat on over 30 panels and advisory committees including most recently several PSP and ICP/DCP Panels.
McIntosh	Elizabeth	Elizabeth has master-level qualifications and in social and physical sciences (environment, planning, chemistry). Elizabeth's 16-year career comprises broad ranging strategic planning work, supported by statutory planning experience. Most recently Elizabeth gained extensive growth area planning experience with the state government, working across metropolitan and regional growth areas. Through this she gained a solid understanding of technical land use planning. Prior to this, Elizabeth's work focussed on urban design and heritage proposals and assessments and mostly in private practice. This experience embedded core skills in design and placemaking. Elizabeth is a member of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association.
McMillan	Gabby	Gabby is a planning and environmental lawyer and runs a legal and planning practice. Prior to establishing her business, Gabby worked in various roles in State government, local government and private practice in Australia and the UK. She has practical experience in environmental assessment, infrastructure projects, bushfire, statutory and strategic planning.
Malouf	Michael	Michael Malouf is a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria. His qualifications include a civil engineering degree, an MBA and post graduate qualifications in municipal engineering and the Company Directors qualification. He has held CEO roles at VicRoads, Barwon Water, Melbourne, Greater Geelong, Wyndham, Werribee and Melton Councils and at the Carlton Football Club. He is currently Chair of the Kardinia Park Stadium Trust and sits on the Board of Southern Rural Water. He is a Fellow of Engineers Australia, the IPAA and the AICD. His primary areas of expertise will be in transport planning, stormwater management, traffic impacts, water and sewerage supply and demand and also has extensive experience in major projects with a strong understanding of business and commercial principles.
O'Neill	Rachael	Rachael O'Neill holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Planning) and has over 22 years experience as a town planner. Rachael has a sound knowledge of statutory and strategic planning in Victoria and has worked in both local government and private practice. She established a consulting firm in May 2014. Rachael has extensive experience in providing advice and securing approval for a range of projects, including commercial, education, heritage and residential developments. She appears regularly as an advocate before the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. She was appointed as a sessional panel member in December 2015.

Partenio	Kate	<p>Kate Partenio holds an undergraduate qualification in civil engineering and a post graduate qualification in traffic engineering and transport planning. She is a sessional member of both Planning Panels Victoria and the Victoria Civil and Administrative Tribunal. In former roles, she worked as a traffic engineer and transport planner in private practice for 19 years, and in local government for 4 years. She was a director of GTA Consultants from 1999-2014. Kate has transport expertise in land use planning, strategic planning, master planning, traffic impact assessments, car parking, design and road safety. In her PPV role she has been appointed to a number of matters and advisory committees including Melbourne Metro Rail EES Inquiry and Advisory Committee, West Gate Tunnel Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee, Yan Yean Road EES, Kaufland Stores in Vic Advisory Committee, Bangholme Market Advisory Committee, Moreland C164 Panel, Kingston C180, and Great Ocean Road Region SAC.</p>
Redding	Cazz	<p>Cazz runs Redink Planning, a small-town planning consultancy based in Victoria, Australia. Cazz is an expert drafter and regularly works with local government, state government and statutory authorities to develop and improve controls, and ensure they are acceptable for inclusion in Victorian planning schemes. Cazz's areas of policy development expertise include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic planning for Activity Centres, Housing, Industry, Community Services and Open Space. • Development of special zones including the Special Use Zone, Comprehensive Development Zone and Activity Centre Zone. • Development and updating of Local Planning Policy Framework controls. • Development of schedule controls including the Design and Development Overlay, Development Plan Overlay, Vegetation Protection Overlay, Environmentally Sensitive Overlay, Heritage Overlay, the residential zones and schedules to the Particular Provisions. • Transition of planning controls from one planning authority to another. • Identification of appropriate zones for surplus government land to enable sale of land. <p>Cazz regularly delivers a very popular strategic planning training series for planners through the PLANET Program and was awarded a Planning Institute of Australia Fellowship in 2019 in recognition of this work and other contributions she has made to the industry.</p>
Roney	John	<p>John holds a Bachelor of Town and Regional Planning (Honours) from the University of Melbourne and has over 30 years' experience as a planning consultant in strategic and statutory planning, dealing with a wide range of public and private sector organisations. John is experienced in large scale planning projects and community consultation. He has been a Sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria since 2015 and has chaired or been a member of a variety of Planning Panels. John is a Registered Planner with the Planning Institute of Australia and a member of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association.</p>

Sweeney	Lynn	Lynn is a conceptual and collaborative Planner with over 25 years of experience, working with state and local government and the development industry to plan successful urban development through effective strategic planning, social planning and community engagement. Lynn blends extensive experience in inner Melbourne and the property industry with project management and research and policy analysis skills. She is a specialist analyst of local context to ensure new development is well integrated with existing communities. This experience has provided exposure to a broad range of contemporary planning issues both from a government and development industry perspective. A strong team worker and clear communicator who listens, confidently explains issues and manages stakeholder and community input to reach optimal outcomes.
Terrill	Adam	Adam Terrill has over 20 years' experience as a town planner. He holds a Master of Environmental Science and Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development (Hons). Adam has worked in a statutory and strategic planning capacity on a number of regional tourism projects, including permit applications, VCAT advocacy, planning scheme amendments, and strategic planning studies across the private and public sector. Adam is the current Vice President of Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association and a member of the Planning Institute of Australia and Urban Development Institute of Australia.
Tulloch	Jessica	Jessica Tulloch has nearly 20 years of experience in planning in the public sector. She is currently Statutory Planning Coordinator, Homes Victoria and previously Team Leader, City of Port Phillip. Ms Tulloch has qualifications in Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning (Hons), University of South Australia.