Environmental Planner

REPORTS TO:	DIRECT REPORTS AND TEAM SIZE:
Team Leader Catchment Strategies and Services	Nil

THIS ROLE EXISTS TO: (PURPOSE)

The Catchment Strategies and Services team works with the development industry and private landowners to provide exceptional service for the planning and building of sustainable and liveable communities.

The Environmental Planner supports achievement of Melbourne Water's objectives for environmental protection and waterway management through providing technical input to the design of development services schemes that achieve the delivery of flood protection, drainage and storm water quality treatment infrastructure.

This role is responsible for planning, investigating and managing studies in developing greenfield areas which lead to the identification of cultural heritage, environmental factors, such as flora and fauna and ecohydrology regimes to inform new or existing infrastructure strategy designs. The environmental planner will be required to interpret outcomes of these investigations, working in partnership with internal teams and consultants to develop technical solutions which lead to sustainable scheme designs for future liveable communities.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:

Strategy investigation, planning and risk management - environmental: Identify, investigate and support the implementation of environmental, flora and fauna protection, cultural heritage, waterway geomorphologic, Eco hydrology and soil assessment requirements in development areas. Undertake environmental assessments of development proposals to determine conditions for development to ensure they meet Melbourne Water and other relevant Authority and Agency requirements.

Environmental investigation and management: Contribute to and/or manage investigations relating to the protection of waterways, riparian areas and environmental values. Review and provide recommendations and requirements regarding environmental aspects and risks of new and existing strategies and Schemes. Assist Development Services and other teams within Melbourne Water to deal with difficult or abstract environmental issues, including changing priorities or legislative requirements.

Technical assessment and advice: Provide technical advice to internal customers regarding environmental aspects of development, particularly greenfield development. Interpret outcomes of environmental investigations and work in partnership with the drainage scheme engineer to develop technical solutions that are in line with Melbourne strategies and achieve environmental requirements within drainage scheme design. Provide technical advice for responses to developer and external agency requests/proposals relating to complex environmental issues in development areas. Initiate and/or manage investigations that assist other teams with their response to planning applications that deal with complex environmental issues (e.g. soil contamination, setting waterway corridor widths, environmental referrals).

Customer: Provide high levels of customer service across a broad industry network, including customers, involved in the preparation and implementation of Development Services Schemes.

Health and safety: Taking care of own and colleagues Health and Safety through identification and reporting of hazards and active involvement in improvement initiatives.





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KEY RESPONSIBILITIES KPIs

Strategy investigation, planning and risk management - environmental

- Contribute to the assessment of Planning Scheme changes proposed by others (e.g. Victorian Planning Authority, growth area Councils) via mechanisms such as Precinct Structure Plans, local Structure Plans, Conservation Management Plans and other strategic plans to ensure Melbourne Water's environmental, flora and fauna, cultural heritage, waterway geomorphologic, and other relevant interests and obligations are managed through appropriate land use planning decisions and outcomes.
- Assess how drainage solutions will best address requirements while protecting the commercial and reputational interests of Melbourne Water.
- Influence the decision making process of government agencies, panels and councils to be favorably disposed to supporting Melbourne Water's desired environmental outcomes for development areas, e.g. through the PSP process.
- Interact, often simultaneously on the same issue, with internal teams, government agencies (DELWP), the Victorian Planning Authority, planning panels, councils, developers, community groups and land owners.
- Prepare reports, briefs and presentations on environmental and related issues, appropriate to target audiences ranging from technical experts to non-technical stakeholders, and from team members to executive management.
- Raise project briefs for external consultants and engage, supervise and direct them to undertake assignments, including complex assignments.
- Work closely with the Program Leader Strategies to deliver on work program targets and customer outcomes.
- Support colleagues as required to develop experience in environmental aspects of strategies.

High quality environmental reviews completed to program.

Environmental outcomes achieved in strategies and schemes

Completion of tasks in a timely and effective manner.

Customer and stakeholder relationships

- Provide high levels of customer service to, and build and maintain positive relationships with, industry participants including land developers, land owners, consultants, local government and other authorities.
- Provide technical support to internal teams to enable them to negotiate
 effectively with customers to achieve the best outcomes for servicing
 urban development with cost effective, sustainable and integrated flood
 protection, drainage, storm water quality treatment, waterway
 management and environmental protection infrastructure.
- Ensure adequate stakeholder and community consultation is undertaken when preparing and amending environmental aspects of Development Services Schemes, including provision of responses to any issues.
- Be available to meet with stakeholders (including the general public) to discuss environmental aspects regarding development.

Reputation survey results.

Culture and Engagement survey results for Development Services and Catchment Strategies and Services teams.

Internal and external





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 Act as a point of contact to coordinate feedback to a variety of internal and external stakeholders. Manage the provision of comments on other agency work proposals that may impact on proposed infrastructure within Development Services schemes. 	stakeholder feedback.
Continuous Improvement: Complete mapping of and documenting business processes and procedures associated with the Environmental Planner role	As assessed by Manager and reporting
Health and Safety Visibly demonstrate health and safety leadership and personal commitment to support Melbourne Water's Health and Safety Policy and supporting procedures to support the achievement of a generative safety culture.	Identification and reporting of hazards and active involvement in improvement initiatives.





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SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- Experience and knowledge in areas of land development and town planning, drainage issues, storm water and floodplain management, drainage infrastructure planning, engineering design and construction, environmental management and water sensitive urban design.
- Capability to identify, develop and evaluate innovative and alternative solutions to difficult, abstract and complex problems and development situations. Demonstrated problem solving, conflict resolution and lateral thinking abilities.
- Planners are expected to perform professional/technical work under general supervision and a moderate degree of independence.
- Knowledge of processes and practices associated with best practice requirements for floodplain management, drainage design, storm water management, whole of water cycle management and achievement of environmental outcomes.
- Looks for outcomes that benefit both Melbourne Water and the customer.
- Considers a range of factors when making decisions. Effectively applies own expertise and is prepared to manage calculated risks.
- Ability to manage individual workloads to ensure agreed targets are achieved, to manage time effectively, co-ordinate multiple tasks, meet tight deadlines and work under pressure.
- Ensures quality outcomes are delivered through meeting deadlines, honoring commitments, attention to detail, ensuring rigor and managing risk.
- Demonstrated ability to contribute in a team environment.
- Experience in supporting and enabling a high performance and inclusive culture.
- Demonstrated ability to establish, maintain and improve collaborative working relationships with internal and external stakeholders.
- Highly developed verbal and written skills using clear and appropriate language with a wide range of people within Melbourne Water, external organisations and the general public.
- Ability to influence the decision making process of government agencies, panels and local government.
- The ability to professionally respond to developers and be confident in exploring flexible solutions. Judgement will be required to provide superior customer service while simultaneously gaining trust and respect for taking and defending positions that protect community outcomes and Melbourne Water's commercial objectives.
- Sound knowledge of State and Commonwealth legislation and policy, such as:
 - Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988
 - Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
 - o Planning and Environment Act 1987
 - o Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

KEY RELATIONSHIPS:

All Melbourne Water employees are responsible for managing aspects of our customer/stakeholder relationships and service interactions, and will work proactively to deliver a consistent customer experience.

INTERNAL

The position frequently interacts with:

- Catchment Strategies and Services team members, key contributor to overall team performance.
- Development Services teams, providing ongoing support regarding environmental aspects of development.





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 Other Melbourne Water teams, for example, Waterways & Land, Asset Management Services and Integrated Planning.

EXTERNAL

- This position builds and maintains positive relationships with numerous external stakeholders including developers, landowners, consultants and local government.
- Other authorities and agencies such as DELWP, Victorian Planning Authority, Environment Protection Authority and Local Government may be involved in the functions of this role.
- General Public.

SALARY RANGE:

EA Level 6

OTHER COMMENTS:

This role requires the following:

- Tertiary degree in one of the following subject areas: Civil/Environmental Engineering, science or natural resource management or equivalent.
- Experience in a related area or work would be highly regarded.
- Victorian Driver's License.

Location: 990 La Trobe Street, Docklands, 3008



