

THE CITY OF SYDNEY

Providing detailed guidelines to support development control plans



ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

With a vision of creating a city that's green, global and connected, ensuring the built environment drives sustainability outcomes is an important priority for the City of Sydney. Creating Development Control Plans (DCPs) is a critical step in urban planning and design, providing guidance on the requirements for sites and proposed building projects all around the local government area.

THE CHALLENGE

As part of amending the Sydney Development Control Plan in 2023, the City of Sydney wanted to introduce and update rules and recommendations around heat controls to ensure our urban space and buildings are as resilient as possible. This included requirements around cool roofs to reflect sunlight, external shading to reduce heat absorption, window to wall ratios for better insulation and increased tree planting in deep soil for more shade.

HOW THE COOL SUBURBS ASSESSMENT HELPED

The robust data and explanations in the Science Rationale section of the Cool Suburbs Assessment supported the drafting of these new urban heat controls. It provided a central resource for the Strategic Planning and Urban Design unit to access scientific evidence and health-related research insights that was then used to convince internal stakeholders, including sustainability, resilience and nature experts in other business units, regarding the importance of addressing urban heat through these measures.

Since the City of Sydney is an established local government authority that's responsible for the dense metropolitan area of Sydney, recommendations for the planning and design of individual buildings in the Cool Suburbs Assessment were also beneficial.

"The Cool Suburbs science rationale provides evidence to support clear and strong urban heat planning controls. The evidence helps give decision makers confidence to support development of new controls."

Jesse McNicoll; Urban Design Coordinator,
Strategic Planning and Urban Design unit

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY OF SYDNEY'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS

[Proposed Amendments to Sydney Development Control Plan \(2012\)](#)

