Moreland Design Excellence Scorecard for Medium Density Developments



What is the scorecard?

The Moreland Design Excellence Scorecard is a tool that establishes a benchmark and defines design excellence in the City of Moreland.

It seeks to improve the design quality and liveability of medium and high-density residential development above the requirements of the Moreland Planning Scheme.

This Scorecard applies to medium density (multi-unit/townhouse) developments.

Participants in the voluntary scorecard process are provided with a range of benefits from Council, in exchange for significantly improved development outcomes for the community.

The scorecard focuses on the enhancement of four key areas:



Each component of the Scorecard goes above minimum Planning Scheme expectations, but it is only where a proposal satisfies all four of these components that it is considered to achieve design excellence and is compliant with the requirements of the scorecard.

See the 'Design Excellence Scorecard - Guidelines for Applicants, November 2019' for detailed information on the purpose of the Scorecard and its operation.

Why participate?

- Opportunity for additional pre-application meetings free of charge.
- The officer that you meet with at pre-application will manage the permit application.
- Support by senior officers and Planning Coordinators through the application process.
- Guaranteed decision by Council officers, not at a Council meeting, resulting in a potential time saving of 4 to 6 weeks.
- Meet with Council officers post-decision to facilitate endorsement of plans and reports.
- Receive a Scorecard logo that can be used as part of development marketing and promotional material.

How to qualify

- Arrange a pre-application meeting. This will increase the likelihood of qualifying for the Scorecard and save time during the application process.
- Ensure your application meets the objectives of the Moreland Planning Scheme and has in-principal support by Council officers.
- Submit a completed Scorecard (see reverse) along with all supporting documentation.
- Receive written confirmation from Council officers prior to public notice that the application meets the Scorecard.

What remains the same?

Scorecard applications are still subject to a standard permit application process, including public notice.

Public consultation meetings, which Councillors may attend, remain part of the process. Applications are subject to third party appeal rights and decisions may be reviewed at VCAT.



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Building Design and Materials

Development must respond to its context and demonstrate high quality design, including form, articulation, and materiality.

Development must incorporate public-private interfaces which positively respond to the immediate context in a sensitive, attractive and engaging manner.

This must be demonstrated through a detailed materials schedule and appropriately scaled elevations of all public-private interfaces.

Commitment that the original architect or building designer will be retained from the planning permit process through to project completion.

ESD and Building Performance

The development must achieve a BESS score of 65% (any innovation points must be approved by Council).

BESS score =

The development must include at least two of the following:

An average of 2 kw of solar PV per dwelling. Gas-free dwellings.

7 star NatHERS average.

Building Accessibility

70% of dwellings (rounded to the nearest whole dwelling) to meet the following 'silver level' livable housing design guidelines, demonstrated on the plans:

% of compliant dwellings

Access to the dwelling

A continuous accessible path of travel from the street to the dwelling entrance.

A continuous accessible path of travel from car parking areas to the main entrance or another dwelling entry.

The path of travel must be minimum 1000mm wide and at a maximum gradient of 1:14 and with a crossfall no greater than 1:40.

Entrance

At least one level (step free) entrance into the dwelling that provides:

- Direct access from the accessible path of travel described above.
- A level landing area of 1200mm x 1200mm, exclusive of the swing of the door.
- A minimum doorway width of 850mm.
- The height difference between abutting surfaces must be no greater than 5mm.



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Building Accessibility (continued)

Corridors & Doorways

The width of internal corridors must be a minimum of 1000mm.

The width of doorways must be a minimum width of 850mm.

Bathroom, Toilet and Shower

A toilet on ground floor that provides:

- A clear width of 900mm and a space of 1200mm (length) forward of the pan (exclusive of the swing of the door) if toilet is located in a separate room.
- Reinforced walls to allow for future installation of grab rails.

One bathroom should feature a slip resistant, hobless shower recess. Shower screens are permitted provided they can be easily removed at a later date.

The shower recess should be located in the corner of the room to enable the installation of grabrails at a future date

A notation on plans that the bathroom & toilet walls will be reinforced in accordance with the measures outlined in the Silver Standard of the Livable Housing Design Guidelines.

Note: If the toilet and shower area are located in the same room the above dimensions and features should be maintained for both the shower and the toilet.

For unit developments of five or more dwellings, at least one dwelling for every five dwellings must have a room on the ground floor that could be used as a bedroom that:

- Is at least 10m2 clearance exclusive of wardrobes; skirtings and wall lining;
- Provides for a minimum path of travel of at least 1000mm on at least one side of the bed.

Community Benefit

Provide on-site tree planting beyond the requirements of the Residential Zone Schedule and a net increase of at least one additional street tree within the road reserve within the vicinity of the site, where possible.

AND / OR

Contribution of 0.1% of the sale price of each dwelling to Homes for Homes, or other equivalent not-for-profit company that funds affordable housing projects.