



Qualifications

Bachelor of Arts in Planning –
University of South Australia

Graduate Diploma in Regional
and Urban Planning –
University of South Australia

University of Auckland
Executive Education – Project
Management

IAP2 Certificate in Engagement
(IAP2 Australasia)

Accreditations

Accredited professional –
Planning Level 2

Affiliations

Full member - Planning Institute
of Australia (PIA)

Member of the Urban
Development Institute of
Australia (UDIA) South Australia
Innovation in Development,
Sustainability and the
Environment Committee

CATHERINE ORFORD

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

BA (PLANNING), GRAD DIP (RUP)

EXPERTISE

- Statutory Planning
- Development Strategies and Project Positioning
- Project Management
- Planning Due Diligence
- Code Amendments
- Community Engagement
- Community Impact Assessments for Liquor and Gaming Licenses

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Catherine is a skilled planner with more than 20 years' experience in both the public and private sectors in Australia and New Zealand. She has particular expertise and interest in the preparation, positioning and management of a wide array of development applications on behalf of a range of clients.

Her initial career development within Local Government provided her with a solid grounding and knowledge in statutory planning and customer engagement and she was employed by Burnside Council (South Australia), North Sydney Council and Woollahra Council (New South Wales) as a Senior Planner.

Prior to joining the Ekistics team, Catherine worked in the private planning sector in New South Wales, South Australia and New Zealand, providing planning advice and expertise to a range of public and private clients, with a focus on optimising development quality and outcomes.

EXPERIENCE

Catherine has extensive experience in managing, preparing, and assessing a broad spectrum of development and planning applications. Her expertise spans large-scale residential, commercial, and industrial projects, as well as residential greenfield and infill developments.

She is highly skilled in providing planning due diligence advice on diverse development proposals, ensuring clients receive comprehensive and strategic guidance. A proficient writer, Catherine excels in crafting detailed and well-reasoned planning arguments and assessment reports, drawing from her experience in both Local Government and private consultancy. She also has experience preparing evidence and presenting at Environment Court hearings across multiple jurisdictions.

Catherine has been instrumental in drafting Code Amendments and leading community engagement.

Additionally, she has prepared numerous Community Impact Assessments for liquor licensing and gaming matters and has appeared as an expert witness in the Licensing Court.