

# Seasonal Workers' Accommodation

## Guide to Council requirements for Group Accommodation

### What is Group Accommodation?

Group Accommodation is defined in the Swan Hill Planning Scheme as, "land, in one ownership, containing a number of dwellings (two or more) used to accommodate persons away from their normal place of residence."

### What are the Planning Scheme requirements for Group Accommodation?

There are no specific requirements in the Planning Scheme for Group Accommodation in the Farming Zone. However, the following general requirements should be considered if you are thinking of applying for Group Accommodation to house your workforce.

A Planning Permit will be required. Some of the issues to be addressed as part of a planning permit are:

- Is the proposal consistent with planning policy?
- Is the land suitable for this use in terms of land capability and compatibility with surrounding farm uses?
- Site layout and design
- Vehicle access and car parking
- Servicing
- Accommodation units must be self-contained
- Waste disposal
- Recreational facilities

Registration with the Environmental Health Department will be required.

### Building Requirements

A Building Permit will be required.

# Public Health Requirements

If you are charging your employees, or any other persons, for accommodation then you may be required to register with Council under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 and Public Health and Wellbeing (Prescribed Accommodation) Regulations 2009.

Registration is required for any accommodation or land in which a person (including employees) are using as a place of temporary or permanent abode for payment of consideration.

Payment of consideration includes:

- Money for rent.
- Work/s required in exchange for accommodation.
- Any accommodation provided to an employee in accordance with a term of an award governing the employment of the employee, or a term of the employee's contract of service, for use by the employee during that employment or service.

## Further information

For further information, please contact:

Council's Economic Development Department on 50323033 or email [ecodev@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:ecodev@swanhill.vic.gov.au)

Council's Planning Department on 50362352 or email [planning@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:planning@swanhill.vic.gov.au)

Council's Building Department on 50362396 or email [building@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:building@swanhill.vic.gov.au)

Council's Public Health Services Department on 5036 2591 or email [health@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:health@swanhill.vic.gov.au)