



Paul Grech
Founding Director



Paul Grech applies his broad range of town planning experience to every project, delivering balanced, comprehensive and practical advice and outcomes.

Over his 43-year career Paul has become recognised as a leading expert in assessment of complex development proposals, planning controls and policy review, due diligence and floodplain risk management.

Expertise

- Development assessments and major projects
- Floodplain risk management
- Expert witness
- Due diligence
- Strategic planning
- Development contributions

Background

Paul holds a Honors degree in Bachelor of Town Planning from the University of NSW, is registered Town Planner with the Planning Institute of Australia and is a qualified horticulturist (with Distinction).

Paul started his career with the NSW Government in the field of open space and recreation planning. Prior to co-founding GLN he ran his own consultancy and was a Director with private consultants, DFP Planning. Paul also has had experience in the local government sector with Campbelltown City and Wyong Shire Councils.

Employment history

- 2010 – 2012 Grech Planners, NSW, Principal
- 1993 – 2010 DFP, NSW, Director and Town Planner
- 1989 – 1993 Don Fox Planning, NSW Senior Town Planner,
- 1988 – 1988 Campbelltown City Council, NSW Environmental and Research Planner
- 1985 – 1987 Don Fox Planning, NSW Associate Town Planner
- 1984 – 1985 Department of Leisure Sport and Tourism NSW, Research Planner
- 1983 – 1984 National Capital Development Commission, Cadet Planner
- 1982 – 1983 Wyong Shire Council, Student Town Planner

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Town Planning (Class 1 Honours) University of NSW
- Certificate in Horticulture (with Distinction)
- Member of Planning Institute Australia and Registered Planner Plus (FIA) Accredited



contact

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Awards

- FMA Floodplain Manager of the Year (2021)
- Best Thesis - Bachelor of Town Planning UNSW
- Highest Achiever Award - Certificate in Horticulture

Additional professional activities

- Presentation of Papers to seminars and conferences inclusive of over 17 papers on the topic of Floodplain Planning
- Director Land Use Planning, Floodplain Management Australia (2013 - current)
- Casual lecturer at University of Technology (2012 - 2025)
- Presenter PIA PLANET Flood Risk Management Course

Significant projects include:

- Project planner and preparation of statements of environmental effects for a broad range of developments including, subdivisions, dwelling houses, integrated housing, residential flat buildings, mixed use developments, child care centres, seniors housing, boarding houses, industrial, commercial and extractive industries.
- Planning evidence at public hearings, Commissions of Inquiry, Supreme Court and over 500 Land and Environment Court matters (including as a court / joint party appointed expert) covering issues such as:
 - Land acquisition compensation and valuations
 - Multi-unit housing / Residential Flats / Mixed Use
 - Dwelling houses (new and alterations and additions)
 - Brothels
 - Child care centres
 - Seniors Living Housing
 - Development Contributions
 - Subdivisions
 - Intensive agricultural industries
 - Industrial developments
 - Extractive industries
 - Streetscape/amenity issues
 - Waste/recycling operations.
- Independent assessments and reports for Councils and Government agencies including Fairfield City Council, Lake Macquarie City Council, Penrith City Council, Campbelltown City Council, Bland Shire Council, Hunters Hill Council, Rockdale City Council, Department of Planning and Office of Environment & Heritage.
- Planning input to over 30 floodplain risk management studies in NSW and QLD, including the first Hawkesbury Nepean Floodplain Management Strategy (1997).
- Engaged by the QLD Flood Commission of Inquiry to provide advice and evidence (2011).
- Independent Planning Expert for the Brisbane River Catchments Floodplain Risk Management Plan (2017-18, Qld Reconstruction Authority)
- Due diligence planning assessment of East Leppington Precinct in the South West Growth Centre (3,000+ dwellings), and of Marsden Park Precinct (2,000+ dwellings) in the North West Growth Centre (Stockland 2010 and 2011).
- On-going involvement in the planning and delivery of development consents within these estates and other urban projects.
- Planning studies and preparation of draft LEPs and DCPs for councils including Liverpool, Warringah, Campbelltown, Bland, Ku-ring-gai and Auburn.
- Review of Ballina, Shoalhaven and Waverley Council's FRM DCP provisions (2021 - 2023).
- Preparation of Sullivan's Creek FMP Planning framework for the ACT Government (2021).
- Review of FRM Planning Issues and preparation of FRM Code for Launceston City Council (2022).

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