



Population and Employment Targets

Urban sprawl has led to low levels of employment self-sufficiency with associated social and environmental costs, particularly in the outer sectors. The Department for Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) is working with local governments to determine the sustainable and efficient allocation of housing and jobs across the metropolitan area, to address the current imbalance between the resident workforce and available jobs.

The Network city policy framework sets a priority goal to achieve 60% of future residential dwelling stock in existing urban areas. The specific tasks under this goal are to:

- Undertake detailed appraisal of opportunities for providing additional homes and jobs within existing urban areas
- Determine housing and job targets by local government areas and sub-regions
- Access current vacant land stocks to assess priorities for development or redevelopment

Outcome

The Population and Employment Targets Project addresses the need for DPI and local governments to understand the analytical basis and quantum of population and employment objectives through a comprehensive and transparent model of population targets, coupled with a process by which local councils can engage with DPI and other agencies to plan for how these targets may be achieved. The outcome of this project will pave the way for closer cooperation between local and state governments to achieve the overall targets set out in Network city. It will also provide increased certainty to residential and commercial land developers and help reduce the harmful price effects of property speculation and therefore property affordability.

The dwelling and employment recommendations are being presented to the Western Australian Planning Commission for formal ratification, before further consultation with local governments. Pracsys is subsequently providing detailed assistance to DPI for the development of State Planning Policy 4.2: Activity Centres.

Client: Department for Planning & Infrastructure

Pracsys team involved in this project: Michael Chappell and Georgia Moore