

Melbourne Airport Environs Safeguarding Standing Advisory Committee

Member Biographies – December 2019

Surname	First Name	Biography
Chair		
Townsend	Lester	Lester was appointed as Senior Panel Member in 2005, following several years as a sessional member. He has under graduate qualifications in town and regional planning and post graduate qualifications in sociology. Lester has significant expertise in strategic and statutory planning, project implementation and plain English communication and drafting. He has previously worked in the Local Government and private sectors. Lester is a Fellow of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association.
Deputy Chair		
Wimbush	Nick	Nicholas (Nick) Wimbush was appointed as Deputy Chief Panel Member in early 2018, following 13 years as a Senior Panel Member. He has undergraduate qualifications in environmental science and postgraduate qualifications in public policy and law. He has significant expertise in environmental assessment, coastal planning and strategic planning. He has previously worked in the private sector in Australia and overseas. Mr Wimbush is a Fellow of the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association. Mr Wimbush has chaired a number of Panels, EES Inquiries and Advisory Committees, including the West Gate Tunnel Project EES Inquiry in 2017, and was Deputy Chair of the East West Link (Eastern Section) Project Assessment Committee in 2014.
Members		
Cummins	Elke	Elke has qualifications in Arts and Planning, with 14 years experience in local and state government, as well as in the private sector. Elke has significant experience in statutory and strategic planning, and was formerly part of the Rural Planning Flying Squad in the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. Elke has lived and worked in regional Victoria for the past five years and has a strong interest in regional and rural planning, having been involved in the implementation of strategic policy, including growth area and economic development plans into planning scheme amendments.
Edwards	Peter	Peter Edwards is an experienced engineer providing local and strategic traffic and civil engineering expertise to and for several local, and state agencies as well as private industry. He has extensive experience in feasibility and traffic impact assessments for various developments, traffic and transport planning issues and parking strategies and investigations, Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliance. Peter has previously worked in private practice at HDS Australia and John Piper Traffic, VicRoads, and a number of local councils. He has been involved in a range PPV matters since being appointed as a Sessional Member in 2015 including the Fishermans Bend Advisory Committee, Metropolitan Landfill Expansion (Ravenhall) and Westfield Doncaster Development Plan. Peter has a Bachelor of Engineering, Graduate Diploma in Municipal Engineering and Business Administration, and is a Member of the Institute of Engineers Australia.

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Hui	Elizabeth	<p>Elizabeth graduated from Monash University with a Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) with Honours in 1988. She worked in the automotive industry in the field of noise vibration and harshness (NVH) as well as training and development before joining MDA Melbourne in 1991. Elizabeth has extensive experience in sound insulation, building services noise control, and planning and environmental noise and has extensive experience in providing expert evidence at Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT). Elizabeth retired from full-time work with MDA in 2013 but now works as a specialist consultant, mentor and trainer with the MDA environmental team and is involved in select projects. Elizabeth has been a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria since 2016 and was part of the Advisory Committee for the Melbourne Metro Project.</p>