



Ben Cunningham

Senior Consultant

BAppSc, Grad Dip BAppSc

Expertise

- Public sector strategy and corporate governance
- Community asset and service planning
- Recreation, sport and open space planning
- Community consultation, engagement and issues management
- Project and stakeholder management
- Business planning

Professional History

Ben joined Holmes Dyer in 2017 following an extensive and diverse career spanning almost 15 years in public sector strategic planning and local government leadership. Ben has strong political acumen having previously been responsible for strategy and planning functions with the City of West Torrens during a time of major planning reform. Prior to this, Ben worked on major growth and urban renewal projects such as Playford Alive, applying strong negotiation skills, issues management and infrastructure planning for new and changing communities. Ben's role in strategic planning and policy is complemented by on-ground urban and social development for multicultural communities and those experiencing intergenerational disadvantage.

Experience

Ben has developed comprehensive knowledge and practiced public sector strategic planning and policy, and asset and service management specialising in open space, recreation, community planning, corporate planning frameworks, and community and stakeholder engagement.

Ben has held responsibility for community development, events and communications, contracts and procurement and urban regeneration functions across a range of established and growth areas for local government. Skills include major project planning and interim review of strategic projects, coordinated delivery of major sports facility developments, and advocacy and liaison.

Ben has strong appreciation of the importance of public and private sector partnerships having managed complex relationships and financial arrangements across diverse public sector projects. He is also a trained facilitator with specialist skills in bringing varied interests together for a mutually acceptable outcome.

Project examples include:

- Prudential report for Camden Community Hub in accordance with statutory obligations of the Local Government Act 1999;
- Involvement in the landscape precinct plan for Playford Alive, Peachy Belt urban renewal, and Munno Para growth areas;
- Negotiated desired use standards for existing and new open space and recreational assets for comprehensive asset management planning for local government;
- Consultation and issue management for the relocation of the proposed Angle Vale regional sports facility; and
- Delivery of open space planning outcomes such as strategies, master plans, and concept plans, and oversight of detailed design, staging and implementation programs.

Qualifications

Bachelor of Applied Science, Recreation Planning and Management (University of South Australia)

Graduate Diploma of Applied Science, Recreation Planning and Management (University of South Australia)

Company Directors Course (Australian Institute of Company Directors)

Affiliations

Member of the Urban Development Institute

Past Member of Parks and Leisure Australia

Past Member of the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia