

Development Approvals – Extension and Renewal

Information Sheet

VERSION 1

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town planning services

What is development approval?

You may need permission from the City of Greater Geraldton (the City) before you carry out building work or change how you use your property.

This permission is called development approval, or planning approval. It is a legal document issued by the City. To apply or ask questions, contact the City's Planning staff.

You must substantially start the approved development within 2 years. If you do not, the approval will lapse. You can ask the City to extend the approval.

Most development approvals allow you to use the land for the approved purpose with no end date. However, some approvals only apply for a set period. This often applies to uses such as short-term accommodation or a home-based business. You must renew the approval if you want the use to continue after that period ends.

Extending a development approval

If you need more time to start your development, you can write to the City and ask to extend the approval period.

You can make this request before or within 14 days after the approval lapses.

The City will check whether planning rules or site requirements have changed since it gave the original approval and then decide whether to extend the approval or require a new application.

Renewing a development approval

If an approval only applies for a set period, you must lodge a new development application to renew it. The use can continue legally if you apply before the approval lapses or within 14 days after it lapses. If you do not apply, or apply more than 14 days after it lapses, the continued use will be unlawful. The City may then take compliance action.