

## EXT 009: GEOTECHNICAL TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR STRUCTURES

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### Objective:

To determine the suitability of a site for building.

### Policy:

#### Geotechnical Testing Requirements for Structures

A geotechnical assessment of the site for all classes of buildings must be undertaken (except class 10) prior to lodgement of a building application with the Shire of Esperance. This requirement may be waived for residential building additions if the site has previously had a geotechnical test and the additions are no greater than 50 square metres in area.

A geotechnical assessment of the site for a class 10 building may be required in circumstances where the size, location or site conditions necessitate.

#### Part A – Site Investigations

Testing shall be carried out in accordance with the current relevant Australian Standards, including, but not limited to:

- AS 1289 – Method of Testing Soils for Engineering Purposes; and
- AS 1726 – Geotechnical Site Investigations.

Testing shall be undertaken by a competent and suitably experienced person and test results shall be certified by a competent and suitably experienced structural or geotechnical registered Engineer. Certified test results shall be submitted to the Shire of Esperance as supporting information for any building application for which this policy applies.

It is the responsibility of the certifying Engineer to ensure site investigations, testing methods and procedures are carried out correctly and that test results adequately reflect site conditions.

Building applications covered by this policy will not be accepted if geotechnical test results are not certified by a competent and suitably experienced structural or geotechnical Engineer and relevant supporting information is not supplied to the satisfaction of the Shire of Esperance.

#### Part B – Structural Design & Certification

Structural designs of slabs and footings for all buildings covered by this policy shall be undertaken with regard to the results of site investigations required under Part A of this policy. To this end, slabs and footings shall be designed and certified by a suitably qualified structural engineer, as being suitable for the site classification determined and designed in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards and design specifications.

Building applications covered by this policy will not be accepted if structural designs of slabs, footings and any supporting information are not supplied with the appropriate certification to the satisfaction of the Shire of Esperance.

Within the Shire of Esperance municipal boundaries, structural materials not specified in codes shall only be approved on production of a Certificate of Adequacy from an Engineer.

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