Demonstrating solar access

The intent of element 4.1 Solar and daylight access, is to optimise the number of dwellings that receive winter sunlight to habitable rooms.

Orientation of habitable spaces is one of the critical factors in determining solar access, however it is important to consider other factors such as building separation, balcony depth and ceiling height. Figure 4.1b has been provided to demonstrate if the orientation of the private open space and windows to habitable rooms are capable of achieving 2 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm on 21 June.

It is expected that proponents should provide clear and accurate information to demonstrate the Element Objectives have been met. The following diagrams are an example of how solar access can be demonstrated.

In this example:
- 3 dwellings receive direct sunlight to the living room, bedroom and private open space
- 1 dwelling receives direct sunlight to the bedroom and private open space only (not the living room)
- 1 dwelling receives no direct sunlight

Figure 4.1b