

Attachment 2

Local Government Act 2009

Chapter 4 Finances and accountability

Part 3 Financial sustainability and accountability

Reference to Community Plans within this section is detailed below:

(3) The ***planning and accountability documents*** include the following documents—

- (a) an annual report;
- (b) a 5 year corporate plan;
- (c) an annual operational plan;
- (d) a long-term community plan;
- (e) a long-term financial plan;
- (f) a long-term asset management plan;
- (g) a report on the results of an annual review of the implementation of the long term plans mentioned in this section.

(4) A ***long-term community plan*** is a document that—

- (a) outlines the local government's goals, strategies and policies for implementing the local government's vision for the future of the local government area, during the period covered by the plan; and
- (b) covers a period of at least 10 years after the commencement of the plan.

Consultation Draft

Local Government (Finance, Plans and Reporting) Regulations 2009

Chapter 3 Financial sustainability and accountability

Part 3 Planning and accountability documents

Part 3 Planning and accountability documents

Division 1 Long-term planning documents

Subdivision 1 Long-term community plan

83 Long-term community plan required

(1) A local government must prepare and adopt, by resolution, a long-term community plan (a **community plan**).

(2) A local government may make a resolution to adopt a community plan only if the local government is satisfied the community plan—

(a) sufficiently outlines the engagement process undertaken by the local government with the community in the development of the plan;

and

(b) satisfies the requirements of section 84.

(3) A local government may join with 1 or more other local governments to prepare a shared community plan.

(4) A **shared community plan** is a community plan for the local government area of each local government (a **participating local government**) that has prepared and adopted the plan.

(5) A shared community plan may be changed only if the change is carried by a resolution of each participating local government.

(6) A community plan continues in force—

(a) for the period of at least 10 years stated in the community plan; or

(b) until the earlier adoption of a new community plan.

(7) A local government may, by resolution, change the community plan as a result of an annual review of the plan if, for a change other than a minor change, the local government has engaged with the community as required under the

Community engagement policy.

(8) A resolution under subsection (7) must state—

(a) the reasons for changing the community plan; and

(b) the engagement process with the community that the local government used before changing the plan.

84 Community plan contents

- (1) The community plan must show how the local government—
- (a) complied with its community engagement policy in preparing the plan; and
 - (b) considered and incorporated local and regional issues that affect, or may in the future affect, the local government area, including issues relating to the following—
 - (i) economic development;
Examples—
 - managing infrastructure
 - disaster management
 - (ii) environmental management;
 - (iii) governance;
Examples—
 - art and culture development
 - housing
 - population change
 - community health
 - (iv) social wellbeing.
Examples—
 - art and culture development
 - housing
 - population change
 - community health
- (2) The community plan may include separate provisions that apply differently to different areas within the local government area.

85 Process for developing a community plan

The process for a local government developing its community plan is as follows—

- *intelligence gathering phase*

The local government—

- (a) considers current and emerging trends, issues and relationships that affect the local government and the community; and
- (b) identifies key descriptive data about the community by gathering and analysing data obtained from surveys, focus groups and existing forecasts, plans and proposals; and
- (c) analyses and evaluates internal conditions, external data and the key descriptive data; and
- (d) Identifies areas for which more information is required.

- *community input phase*

The local government engages with the community, in accordance with the community engagement policy, in identifying and prioritising the planning themes on which the development of the community plan is based.

- *community vision phase*

The local government develops its vision for the future of the local government area having regard to its engagement with the community.

- *community validation phase*

The local government—

(a) reviews the vision for the local government area; and

(b) prepares a draft community plan; and

(c) engages with the community about its vision for the local government area, the planning themes on which the development of the community plan is based and the draft community plan.

- *policy and adoption phase*

The local government—

(a) agrees on strategies and actions to be taken to attain its vision for the future of the local government area; and

(b) agrees on groups responsible for implementing specific actions and the timetable to complete the actions; and

(c) identifies performance indicators for measuring the local government's progress in achieving its vision for the future of the local government area; and

(d) considers the impact of the draft community plan on its financial forecast, long-term financial plan, and long-term asset management plan; and

(e) finalises and adopts the community plan.