



Fact Sheet

Community Participation Plan (CPP)

What is a Community Participation Plan?

A Community Participation Plan (CPP) is a document that sets out how Council will consult with the community for planning matters. The CPP includes the minimum exhibition timeframes for strategic plans, development applications and other planning matters. There is also helpful information to better enable the community to have their say in planning matters. This document is designed to be a useful and easy to understand tool for the community.

Why are we preparing this plan?

All NSW Councils are required to create a CPP and have them published by 1 December 2019. It aims to ensure consultation is embedded in planning and all the relevant information is easily accessible in one place for the community.

Where have the minimum exhibition timeframes come from?

The minimum exhibition timeframes are established in multiple NSW government legislative documents, including the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1997 and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000. The CPP will present these timeframes in one easy to read document

What does this plan not cover?

This plan only applies to decisions made by Council. Some development can be carried out without approval from Council such as exempt or complying development and is therefore not required to be publicly exhibited. This plan does not explicitly state the methods for engagement on planning matters as the amount and type of exhibition and consultation required varies based on the project. This will be determined on a case by case basis but the minimum requirements will still be met.

Will Council do more than the minimum requirements?

Yes, Council will continue to exhibit documents for more than the minimum requirements. Typically strategic planning documents will be exhibited for 6 weeks and the methods for engagement including workshops and drop in sessions will be determined based on the project.

How does Council currently consult with the community?

Council strives to involve the community as much as possible in the decision making process for planning related matters. Council regularly exceeds the minimum exhibition timeframes and conducts workshops for strategic planning matters. The style and length of the consultation is based on the likely impact of the proposal, for example a proposal that is likely to impact the entire Shire will likely involve thorough consultations with a number of workshops held in different locations and stalls at the farmers markets. The same amount of consultation would not be appropriate for a small scale proposal that would only affect a few targeted landowners. Flexibility with the engagement methods is important based on the context of the proposal and this has been reflected in the draft CPP.

Will the Notification and exhibition requirements from the DCP be placed into the CPP?

Yes, a lot of information about the notification and exhibition of development applications is being pulled from the Byron DCP and placed into CPP. This DCP chapter will be reviewed after the adoption of the CPP to reduce unnecessary overlap. The requirements set out in the CPP are given weight under the EP&A Act.