One strategy to rule them all

Our shire is a very complicated place. We have a hugely diverse population, a massive area of land and a wealth of infrastructure spread across it. This means that Council operates in a complex environment, interacting with more than 50 pieces of State and Federal legislation, and more than 20 government agencies.

The NSW government introduced this reporting structure to inject a clear community vision into the strategies and plans for our shire, whether they come from Council or other agencies.

Instead of a new plan for each activity, this process gives us one process to plan and deliver the community's vision and priorities while maintaining affordability, accountability, and transparency.

Now more than ever we have to balance our limited resources of time, people, and money. We use these documents to decide what is essential, what should be done, what would be nice to do, and what isn't our job.



For everything you need to know about **Integrated Planning & Reporting** - visit the Kempsey Shire Council website.

Why should I care?

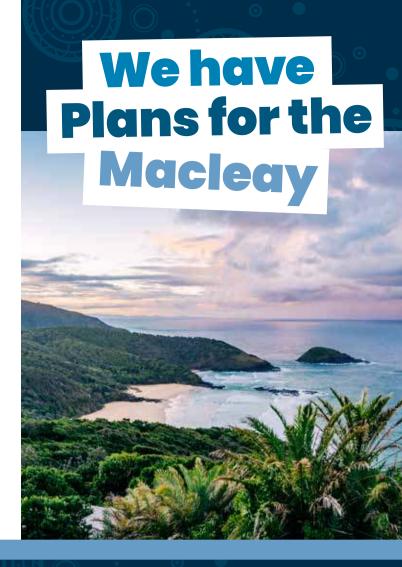
You are an important part of creating the vision and goals for our local area. These plans start with our community and mean nothing without you.

We want your input into what goes into these strategies and your feedback on documents we create to communicate our visions and goals.

To begin with, this structured approach to planning is designed around one vision. When the community's expectations and council's priorities are aligned, it will make our shire a great place to live, and to improve it for future generations to come.

It all starts with the vision drawn from extensive community engagement:





Sign up for our e-newsletter!

ksc.pub/e-news





ksc.pub/IPR

Community Engagement Strategy

Our Community Engagement Strategy outlines our commitment to effectively including the community in our decision-making process.

We know that better decisions are made when we have quality information and all points of view are heard and considered.

The Community Engagement Strategy covers the development of all plans, policies, programs and important activities put forward by Council. It outlines our commitment to genuine and inclusive engagement and is based on social justice principles and best practice.

We aim to engage early and broadly and to continue to improve access to information and our community engagement processes.

We welcome the combined experience, imagination and common sense of the Kempsey people to help guide Council decision-making.



Long Term Financial Plan

The Long Term Financial Plan provides detailed financial information on how Council plans to pay for our community strategies and objectives over the next ten years.

The aspirations and goals of the community are tested against financial realities, including financial forecasts and modelling assumptions based on the latest data. It outlines the pressures and economic drivers that impact our expected long-term future.

The plan is reviewed yearly so that it keeps up with changes in the local and broader environment, making sure that the plan stays relevant and effective.



Reporting

For accountability we must report back on our progress in delivering our goals. In addition to ongoing monthly reporting, there are two key public reports.

Every year Council produces an Annual Report which gives a comprehensive account of Council's performance measured against the Operational Plan. The Annual Report summarises the highlights and challenges faced by Council over the previous financial year.

At the end of each Council term, we then produce the State of the Shire report. This focuses on how effective we have been in delivering our key objectives over the previous 4-year term of Council. It reports against the high-level strategies and priorities of the Community Strategic Plan with a community focus, rather than a council one. This report demonstrates the progress made for the community under the leadership of the outgoing Council.

Read the Annual Report:

ksc.pub/AR

Read the State of the Shire Report:

ksc.pub/SSR

What the KSC is IP&R?!

You know how we love an acronym! Welcome to IP&R - local government shorthand for Integrated Planning and Reporting.

Integrated Planning and Reporting is an umbrella term for a family of documents which together provide a structured, consistent approach to community planning. These include:

- Community Strategic Plan
- Community Engagement Strategy
- Long Term Financial Plan
- Delivery Program
- Operational Plan
- Annual Report
- State of the Shire Report

This framework is used by all Councils in New South Wales. At its heart it recognises that Council plans, policies and actions should not exist in isolation.

It guides all of the planning carried out by our Council. Crucially it links planning to resourcing and service delivery and then requires ongoing monitoring, evaluation and community engagement.

This integrated process draws all Council plans together so we understand how they impact each other and get the maximum out of them. This enables Council to plan and budget with a big picture in mind, in order to achieve the most community benefit.

Simply put, Integrated Planning and Reporting asks councils, and their communities, four questions.

Four strategic questions

- Where are we now?
- · Where do we want to be?
- How will we get there?
- How will we know when we have arrived?



What are the documents inside the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework?

Community Strategic Plan

The Community Strategic Plan sets out a 20-year vision for our entire Kempsey Shire community. It is the highest level of strategic planning undertaken by a Council, and all the other plans must support the objectives of this plan.

To keep it current, it is revised every four years to make sure it still captures our community's image of the future. It is developed and endorsed by the community through extensive engagement facilitated by Council.

The plan looks at our residents' and ratepayers' main priorities and aspirations, sorts them into key areas and outlines where we are now, where we want to be, and how we're going to get there.

The Community Strategic Plan extends beyond Council. It is a vision for the entire community. We work with other agencies and levels of government to deliver the plan, and they use it to inform their own decisions.



Delivery Program

The Delivery Program is a four-year plan that sets out what Council will do during its four year term of office. This is a statement of how Council is aiming to deliver the vision and outcomes of the Community Strategic Plan.

It details major projects, such as sewage and water infrastructure, roads and bridges, building projects, sports facilities and disaster risk management. Those projects are aligned to the objectives from the Community Strategic Plan.

The Delivery Program is adopted at the beginning of each new Council four-year term, along with Council's workforce management plan, strategic asset management plan and digital strategy documents.



Operational Plan

The annual Operational Plan is Council's annual budget. It outlines in detail the actions and planned expenditure that Council will do in the coming year to work towards the community vision in the Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program.

The Operational Plan runs across the financial year and explains in detail how Council plans to pay for and do the things we have said we will do.

Each year Council also updates the Revenue Policy, Rates Map, Long Term Financial Plan, and Fees and Charges for the upcoming year in line with the new Operational Plan.

The Operational Plan and key documents are put on exhibition in April/May each year for public comment and brought to the June council meeting for adoption.

Read the Operational Plan: ksc.pub/OP

