



Cheat Sheets



Useful background information for the community about Future Wellington.



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What is Future Wellington?

Wellington Shire Council invites you to take an active role in shaping Future Wellington.

We are reviewing our Community Vision and the long-term plans that guide our work and the priorities we deliver. Our Community Vision was first created in 2008 and has been regularly reviewed. The Community Vision represents what our community wants Wellington Shire to look like in the future. We have been working towards our Community Vision along with our Council Plan 2021-2025. Now we want to check that this vision still matches your goals and priorities for the future.

Have your say by getting involved in a way that suits you!

- Dive into our online survey or fill out a postcard to share your thoughts on priority areas.
- Chat with us in person at lively workshops, pop-ups, markets, and events.
- Join one of our interactive online sessions or host a Community Conversation with your local group.
- Unleash your creativity by drawing your vision of Future Wellington or capture a photo of what Wellington means to you and submit it to us.
- Share your vision for Future Wellington through a captivating video or story.

By having your say about Future Wellington you will help us make the tough decisions we face. This will help with prioritising our spending for the next decade and beyond.

For more information about Future Wellington, visit [Future Wellington | Your Wellington Your Say](#).

About the Cheat Sheets

Why did we create these cheat sheets?

We want as many people as possible to get involved in Future Wellington by sharing their ideas, but we also know people live busy lives!

We have created these cheat sheets to make things a little easier by highlighting important information that will be useful for you to know about Future Wellington. These cheat sheets can be used as a quick tool to find out a bit more about what Future Wellington is and to learn some more about each of the long-term planning documents.

Who are cheat sheets for?

If you are interested in finding out more about Future Wellington, then you're in the right place! For those people attending a workshop or hosting a Community Conversation, cheat sheets are valuable preparation. They can also help those completing the survey to be fully informed.

Cheat Sheet #1: Introducing Future Wellington

Wellington Shire Council is pleased to introduce Future Wellington, a project that shapes the future of our community.

Future Wellington involves reviewing five long-term plans that guide our work and the priorities we deliver:

- Community Vision (Wellington 2031)
- Council Plan 2021-2025
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (Healthy Wellington 2023-2025)
- Asset Plan 2021-2025; and
- Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31.

From July 2024, we'll engage with the community to ensure the Community Vision still matches the communities' goals and priorities.

We want to know if your vision for Wellington remains the same as in 2021 and what changes matter most to you and our community.

A key part of Future Wellington is understanding if our priority areas are still relevant, or whether the community's needs have changed over the last four years.

With rising costs, financial constraints, and a growing population, we are committed to responsibly managing services and infrastructure.

We are facing tough decisions about priorities for the next decade and beyond due to our unique geographical and population challenges.

Emergency events have emphasised our need to invest in strong infrastructure and ways to respond to a changing climate.

Your input will help shape the future of Wellington and prioritise the areas that matter to you most.

Find out how you can have your say from July to August 2024 by going to [Future Wellington | Your Wellington Your Say](#).

Cheat Sheet #2: Our Community Vision

What is the purpose of a Community Vision?

A Community Vision describes what residents and ratepayer's aspirations are for the future, and guides the long-term planning, decision-making and expectations for the shire.

All Victorian councils must develop a Community Vision under the *Local Government Act 2020*. Councils must also advocate on behalf of the community to other levels of government to ensure their aspirations are met.

What is the role of Council in the Community Vision?

Council is responsible for developing the Community Vision, but it is owned by the community. While the Community Vision will provide direction to the Council Plan and other long-term plans and strategies, it extends beyond Council's area of influence. The Community Vision provides a platform for advocacy and collaboration amongst Council, the community, groups, local organisations and agencies.

What is the timeframe of the Community Vision?

A council must develop a Community Vision for a period of at least the next 10 financial years. As part of Future Wellington, we will explore whether that time frame should be extended to 2050.

What does the current Community Vision 2031 include?

The current Community Vision has a vision statement and five key themes: Communities, Services and Infrastructure, Natural Environment, Lifelong Learning and Economy. Each theme has its own vision statement and a set of priorities identified through consultation with the community and other key stakeholders. The Community Vision outlines the details of the community engagement process undertaken for the development and review of the vision.

What will the consultation to review the Community Vision focus on?

As part of the review of the Community Vision, we want to check that it still matches your vision for the future of Wellington. We want to find out what the community wants Wellington Shire to look like in 2050. We also want to find out what people love about where they live, ideas about what could make Wellington Shire a better place to live, and what's most important to residents as our community grows and changes.

Cheat Sheet #3: Council Plan 2021-25

What is the purpose of the Council Plan?

A Council Plan outlines the projects and priorities for a four-year period that Council plan to deliver to achieve the community's longer-term goals for the future as shown in the Community Vision.

All Victorian councils must work with the community every four years to develop a new Council Plan under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

What is the role of Council in the Council Plan?

The Council Plan outlines the projects and priorities that Council is responsible for delivering over the next four years. Council has several different roles in delivering the initiatives and priorities outlined in the Council Plan including provider, funder, regulator, facilitator and advocate.

What is the timeframe of the Council Plan?

A council must prepare and adopt a Council Plan for a period of at least the next four financial years after a general election in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.

What does the Council Plan 2021-25 include?

The Council Plan outlines council's mission, values and the details of the community engagement process undertaken for the development of the plan. Five opportunities and priorities are outlined including Climate Change, Economy in Transition, Partnering with Gunaikurnai, Sustainable Population Growth and Housing Choice, and Better Access to Key Services. There are also four key strategic directions: Environment and Climate Change, Economy and Sustainable Growth, Liveability and Wellbeing, and Services and Infrastructure, that respond to the Community Vision. Key projects, initiatives and priorities are included to achieve the outcomes for each strategic direction.

What will the consultation to review the Council Plan focus on?

As part of the review, we want to understand the areas that are most important to you and what the Council Plan should focus on. With rising costs, financial constraints, and a growing population, we are committed to responsibly managing services and infrastructure.

Cheat Sheet #4: Healthy Wellington 2021-2025

What is the purpose of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan or 'Healthy Wellington'?

Wellington Shire's Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, currently known as 'Healthy Wellington 2021 - 2025' outlines the community outcomes and four health priorities: Mental Wellbeing, Equality, Active Living and Health and Climate Change, for Wellington Shire Council over the next four years. The purpose of Healthy Wellington 2021 - 2025 is to show how Wellington Shire Council will work in partnership with health, community and education stakeholders to improve the health and wellbeing of our community over four years.

All Victorian councils must work with the community and other partners every four years to develop a new Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan under The Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008.

What is the role of Council in Healthy Wellington?

Council works in partnership with other organisations and levels of government to improve health outcomes and give the community tools and opportunities to live a healthy life through the delivery of Healthy Wellington.

What is the time frame of Healthy Wellington?

A council must prepare a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan for a period of at least the next four financial years after a general election.

What does Healthy Wellington include?

Healthy Wellington outlines the community engagement process undertaken to develop the plan and the strategic framework that guides the delivery of the plan. Healthy Wellington includes four health priorities: Mental Wellbeing, Equality, Active Living and Health and Climate Change to achieve community outcomes. Key initiatives, strategies or actions are also outlined for each health priority.

What will the consultation to review Healthy Wellington focus on?

As part of the review, we want to understand how connected people feel to the community and how well they think Council supports their health and wellbeing and access to support services. We also want to find out about any barriers people may face to being healthy and the communities' priorities for improving the health of the community.

Cheat Sheet #5: Asset Plan 2021-2025

What is the purpose of the Asset Plan?

The purpose of our Asset Plan is to support Council in managing council infrastructure assets. The Asset Plan informs the 10-year Financial Plan by identifying the amount of capital renewal, backlog and maintenance funding that is required over the life of each asset category.

All Victorian councils must work with the community to develop an Asset Plan under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

What is Council's role in the Asset Plan?

Council's role is to responsibly manage council infrastructure assets and ensure compliance.

What is the timeframe of the Asset Plan?

A council must develop an Asset Plan for a period of at least the next ten financial years.

What does the Asset Plan include?

The Asset Plan provides an overview of the stages involved in the whole of life management for council infrastructure assets. Whole of life management begins with creation plans and then covers the performance of assets, maintenance, renewal, upgrade, and disposal. The different asset classes included in the plan are Bridges and Major Culverts, Buildings, Drainage, Open Space, Paths, Roads.

What will the consultation to review the Asset Plan focus on?

As part of the review, we want to understand what types of assets the community thinks Council should prioritise over the next ten years. Your feedback will help us make the tough decisions we face about prioritising our spending for the next decade and beyond, considering our unique geographical and population challenges.

Cheat Sheet #6: Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31

What is the purpose of the Financial Plan?

The Financial Plan is a financial forecast for the next ten years 2021/22 to 2030/31. It is a guiding document that Council considers when developing the annual plan and budget. It forecasts Council's financial position in future years, based on the assumptions outlined in this document.

A Financial Plan is used by Council, community, and the organisation to ensure the long-term viability of the organisation. It supports the achievement of the Community Vision and establishes investment and spending thresholds.

All Victorian councils must work with the community to develop a Financial Plan under the Local Government Act 2020.

What is Councils role in the Financial Plan?

The Financial Plan shows that Wellington Shire Council is planning for a sustainable future by providing a strong financial management framework which provides support for Council's financial decisions.

What is the timeframe of the Financial Plan?

A council must develop a Financial Plan for a period of at least the next 10 financial years.

What does the Financial Plan include?

The Financial Plan outlines the challenges Council faces to achieving financial sustainability due to the increased demand for services, aging infrastructure, constraints on revenue growth, rate capping, and cost increases that are more than the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Financial Policy Statements are provided including the Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works, and Statement of Human Resources.

The Strategic Actions and the assumptions underpinning the financial statements are also outlined, and the financial indicators, and the borrowing and reserves strategies.

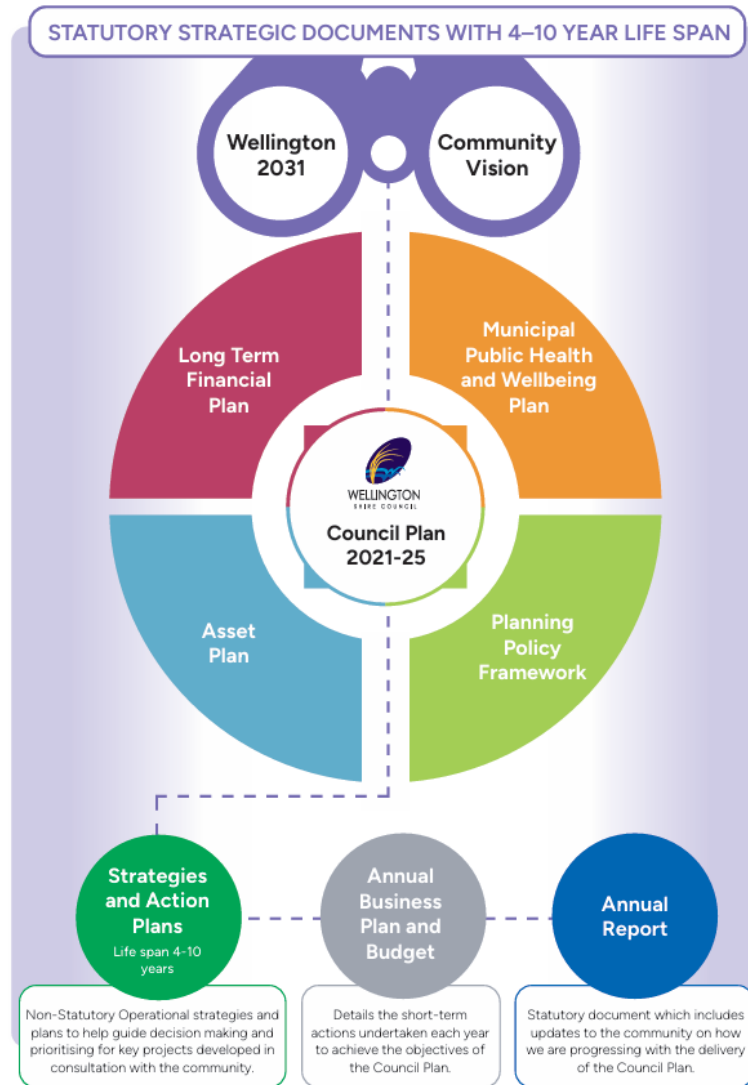
What will the consultation to review the Financial Plan focus on?

As part of the review, we want to know what your priorities are for each of the other long-term plans so that we can factor this into the new Financial Plan and ensure we have the resources we need to be financially sustainable for the next ten years.



Cheat Sheet #7: How do the long-term plans work together?

The image of Wellington Shire Council's Planning Framework below shows how Council's long-term plans work together to achieve our Community Vision.



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