PLANNING ON A PAGE

Planning Victoria's liveable communities together

The economic, social and environmental needs of the community are constantly changing.

Broad strategies need to be developed to plan for these changes...

The planning rules ensure that broad strategies and policies can be implemented

So that fair and transparent decisions, consistent with the planning rules, can be made.
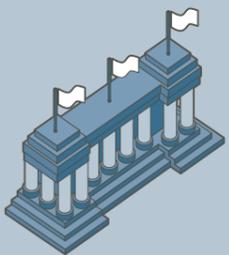
The Victorian Government looks at the community needs to understand how to respond.
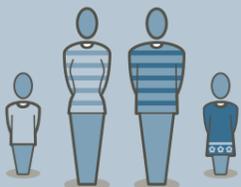
We work with the community and local councils to get a broad agreement on the ways to respond.

The Victorian Government, councils, and the community work together to develop the planning strategies.
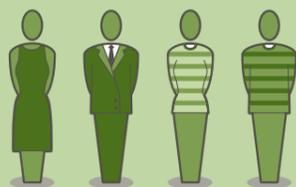
The broader community is then asked what they think.
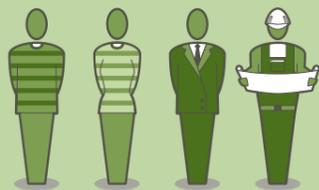
Strategic plans and policies that set out the way forward are agreed upon.

The Victorian Government and councils propose changes to the planning rules to deliver the policies.

The community, councils and industry are asked about the proposed changes.
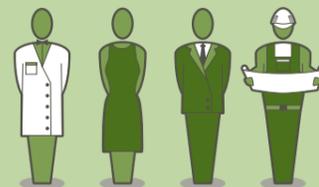
Some changes may need expert advice from an independent committee or panel.
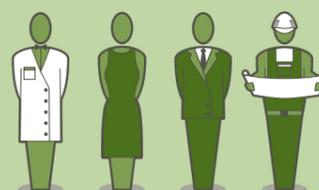
The Minister for Planning approves the changes and the planning controls are updated.
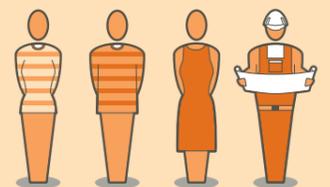
Before submitting a permit application, the applicant talks to council about the proposal*.

*Some proposals are assessed by the Victorian Government

Council may then refer the application for specialist advice to help make a decision.

The proposal may be advertised so anyone affected can have a say.
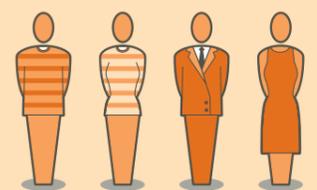
If those affected are not satisfied with the council decision, the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) can be asked to review it.

Understanding the needs of the Community

Planning for the Community's needs

Making fair and transparent planning decisions

VICTORIA State Government | Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Understanding the community's needs

Economic Drivers
- Population growth
- Transport & land-use coordination
- Airfield, port and freight logistics
- Infrastructure
  (e.g. water, waste, education, telecommunications)
- Economic Development
  (e.g. business, industry, forestry)
- Access to employment
- Agriculture
- Tourism
- Global economic cycles

Social Drivers
- Affordable housing
- Social housing
- Planning for health
- Heritage and cuture
- Population change
  (e.g. household types, cultural diversity, ageing)
- Liquor and gambling
- Community infrastructure
  (e.g. open active space, libraries)
- Sense of 'place'

Environmental Drivers
- Biodiversity
- Natural hazards
  (e.g. coastal sea level rise, bushfire)
- Environmental protection
- Climate change
- Renewable energy
- Sustainable design
- Vegetation protection
- Resource management and protection
- Sustainable Transport

Planning for the community's needs

Implementation through the planning controls
- The **Planning and Environment Act** sets the legal framework for the planning system
- Each municipality in Victoria is covered by a **planning scheme** that regulates the use, development and protection of the land
- Planning schemes set out the planning rules - the state and local policies, zones, overlays and provisions about specific land uses that inform planning decisions
- Council develops the vision for the municipality with input from the community
- These ideas are included in the planning scheme as local policies and the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS)
- A planning scheme can only be changed by a formal amendment process
- Permit application decisions must be consistent with the planning scheme

Statewide policies agreed
- *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050*
- *Regional Growth Plans*
- *Homes for Victorians: Affordability, access and choice*
- *Victorian Coastal Strategy*

"The Victorian planning system responds to the changing needs of a growing population"

"The system relies on participation across all sectors of the community to guide the future development of the state and deliver the right planning controls."

Expert advice
- Agencies
  - Can comment on proposals that affect their area of interest
    (e.g. catchment management authorities, EPA, Melbourne Water)
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)
  - Makes recommendations to the Minister
  - Administers changes to the planning controls as required
  - May refer for additional expert input
  - Can seek community input
- Independent Advisory Committees
  - May be appointed to provide advice on any planning decision under specific Terms of Reference
- Independent Planning Panels
  - Makes recommendations on submissions to planning scheme amendments

Making fair and transparent planning decisions

Local Government
- Acts as responsible authority for local planning matters
- Assesses permit applications against the planning scheme
- Refers application for specialist input
- May require public notice and engagement
- May request amendments to the Planning Scheme
- May delegate a decision to a council officer

Minister for Planning
- Is responsible for state significant projects in some areas
- Can refer an application for specialist input
- May take responsibility for important decisions by calling-in
- May delegate some decisions to DELWP

Other decision makers
- DELWP
  - Delegated decision making on behalf of the Minister
- VCAT
  - Decides some planning permit applications on review

"Decisions are made at the state and local level depending on the nature of the proposal."

Outcome
- Permit is issued
- Permit is refused

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