

AMENDED REPORT

10 April 2013
To the Ordinary Council Meeting

General Manager's Report
General Manager's Unit

4.1 Consideration of submissions to the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013)

TRIM REFERENCE: F2012/01447 - D03290451
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SUMMARY

This report provides details of submissions made during the public exhibition of the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013) for consideration by Council prior to finalisation and endorsement of the plan.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 ***That Council receive public submissions and staff recommendations listed herein concerning the exhibition draft of the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013).***
- 2 ***That Council determine the outcome of each submission and staff recommendation in terms of possible changes to the draft Plan before the final Plan is adopted.***
- 3 ***That Council adopt the amendments detailed within the report.***

BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 27 February 2013 Council considered a draft Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013). The draft was formulated in accordance with the Local government Act and the Division of Local Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines.

At that meeting Council unanimously resolved:

- “1 *That Council endorse amendments to the existing Community Strategic Plan.*
- 2 *That Council place the draft Community Strategic Plan on public exhibition.*
- 3 *That Council receive submissions from the community and interested groups or stakeholders concerning the Draft Plan for consideration and possible inclusion in the final Plan to be adopted by Council in April 2013.*
- 4 *That Council endorse the revised Engagement Strategy for the Community Strategic Plan.”*

The draft Plan was exhibited for a period of 30 days from 4 March until 2 April 2013. Exhibition was undertaken in accordance with the revised Community Engagement Strategy that included:

- A series of advertisements in the local papers and on local radio
- Media release issued to all media and picked up by local radio
- Inclusion in the Shire Wide (Council's regular publication in the local paper)
- Exhibition displays at Council's civic centre, depots, libraries and care and education centres
- Letters and copies of the Plan mailed to Precinct Committees
- Letters and copies of the plan mailed to CSP Community Liaison Group members
- Email notice to all staff, local MPs, Chambers of Commerce, Regional Development Australia, Department of Premier and Cabinet, neighbouring local governments and the resident e-Panel
- Electronic exhibition of the document on Councils website (including via Consultation Hub)
- Social media updates through Facebook and Twitter

CURRENT STATUS

A total of 16 submissions were received (one was blank), as per the summary below.

| ID | Submission detail | Staff Recommendation |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | Concerns regarding keeping the document at a high level and reflecting community aspirations (not Council aspirations) Requesting evaluation against the Plan Requesting the plan provide a balanced approach to people / community, environment, economy and governance | Acknowledge concerns and provide advice on reporting requirements and Council's strategic plan alignment |
| 2 | Concerns regarding lack of understanding of Council regarding word "sustainable"; stating that the natural and built environments are major concerns for the future; and that the lakes system is under immense impact from overdevelopment; agreeing with focus on jobs (as long as it is well thought out and sustainable); requesting focus on reasons why people want to visit and live in Wyong Shire; requesting leadership, understanding, progressive/sustainable decision making and dismissing the idea that developers and town planners have the right intentions for the community; dismissing the idea that jobs come first before the family home and a sense of belonging and pride and stating that this has become the prime objective of Council's thinking and that they have lost their way in understanding of what the ratepayers of the region want for the region's future; stating the four main objectives of the Draft Community Strategic Plan have not been heeded to over the past decade and the fiscal reports support such a statement; requesting a new direction, one that will stimulate creativity and excitement for generations to come and show the world that Wyong Shire Council is a leader, not a follower. | Acknowledge |
| 3 | Minor changes on pages 2, 6, 17 and 23 - along with the addition of items from the Central Coast Regional Action Plan that were omitted | Apply recommended changes |
| 4 | Sounds great, let's hope it all works out. | Acknowledge |

4.1 Consideration of submissions to the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013) (contd)

| ID | Submission detail | Staff Recommendation |
|-----|---|--|
| 5 | I agree with the general direction and points made in this strategy, subject to the cost to rate payer and suggested that community based programs and facilities should be on a user paid basis including some suggestion to decrease the libraries. | Acknowledge |
| 5a | Why an airport – we already have one, plus Newcastle is one hour away, focus on basic delivery | Acknowledge |
| 6 | Some points are quite ambitious but worth aiming for but the plan still contains a number of key points of personal interest including belonging and participation in the community. Plus the suggestion to include in the plan public parking at Tuggerah Station. The writer sees education and public transport being intrinsically linked to participation in community | Acknowledge |
| 7 | Suggest further work required on strategies and actual measures and targets. | Strategies will be reviewed in four years time when the plan has a major review |
| 8 | Small typo page 1 - delete 'it' from line 2 and suggest that further work is required throughout the plan around the measurement of our success. Additional items to be added are good urban design (walkability / recreation / proximity of living to service areas) plus the recognition of sustainable design in housing (orientation, passive solar design etc) | Acknowledge, amend typo and advise strategies will be reviewed in four years time when the plan has a major review |
| 9 | Include the need to inject funds into existing townships | Strategies will be reviewed in four years time when the plan has a major review |
| 10 | Relates to the difficulty in accessing the LEP | Not applicable to CSP |
| 11 | It is wonderful, mind boggling & presents an 'ideal' I would like to see achieved however concerned about the achievement of the plan based on Council's financial status | Acknowledge |
| 11a | More specific comment about widening the F3 from Tuggerah to Warnervale and as far as Morriset; should have more building blocks around the 1000sqm size as this would allow more retention of native trees and shrubs; park and ride locations along the Pacific Highway | Strategies will be reviewed in four years time when the plan has a major review |
| 12 | Concerned regarding condensed nature of plan; photos not representational; addition of strategy for regional airport; specific projects (ie airport) while others not mentioned (eg airport); stating that a large portion of rates are used to lobby other governments; seeking measurement information for strategies; changes made without consultation; no transparency | Acknowledge |
| 13 | Objecting to rising child care fees | Acknowledge – NB not relevant to the CSP |

During the exhibition period staff also reviewed the Plan, and recommend the following changes:

| ID | Page | Section | Type | Staff Recommendation |
|----|------|--------------|------|---|
| 1 | | General | | General typographical, grammatical and formatting changes throughout the document |
| 2 | 2 | Consultation | Add | Specific items from the Quality of Life Survey |

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Consideration of submissions to the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013) (contd)

| ID | Page | Section | Type | Staff Recommendation |
|----|------|--|--------|--|
| | | | | Central Coast Regional Action Plan 2013 and Central Coast Regional Strategy by Department of Planning and Infrastructure |
| 3 | 4 | Planning Themes | Add | The themes within this document reflect the 'quadruple bottom line' and demonstrate Council's commitment to sustainability. Monitoring and reporting on these themes will assist Council in understanding its progress towards sustainable development and the broader dimensions of sustainability. |
| 4 | 6 | Objective 1 | Amend | We will create and support communities where individuals feel closely connected, people know their neighbours, relationships are built within local neighbourhoods, there is participation in the local community and a sense of belonging and pride in the local area |
| 5 | 6 | Objective 1 | Amend | 1g – Implementing the Regional Strategy for the Central Coast that will guide appropriate development, maintain the lifestyle and environment and include Government intervention to provide more than 45,000 jobs in the next 25 years (Regional Strategy) |
| 6 | 6 | Objective 2 | Amend | 2b - Upgrading train and public transport services between Newcastle and Sydney Central ensuring the service is safe, timely and reliable |
| 7 | 6 | Objective 2 | Amend | 2h - Improving the M1 links to Sydney to three lanes in each direction in partnership with the Federal Government (Regional Strategy) |
| 8 | 9 | 'We will know we are succeeding ...' | Remove | Greater attendance at sporting and community events (sporting attendance is restricted to venue capacity so this is not an effective measure) |
| 9 | 11 | 1 st Paragraph – Where are we now | Amend | Progress has been made toward the protection of resources, maintenance of processes and ecosystems and retention of amenities in the face of ongoing development through the implementation of the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary Management Plan, wetland construction, sustainable living workshops and foreshore restoration works on Lake Macquarie. |
| 10 | 12 | Objective 5 | Amend | We will retain and maintain areas of natural value by preserving endangered species, ecological communities and biodiversity as well as supporting programs for the restoration of degraded natural areas. |
| 11 | 12 | Objective 5 | Amend | 5e - Developing and implementing a Natural Resource Management Strategy for Wyong Shire |
| 12 | 12 | Objective 5 | Amend | 5f - Ensuring sustainable development that is sympathetic to the local setting and reflects community values |
| 13 | 12 | Objective 6 | Amend | There will be a sense of community ownership of the natural and built environment through direct public involvement with programs and services |
| 14 | 12 | Objective 6 | Amend | We will develop and establish a range of programs and activities that create community involvement and allows the community to appreciate and embrace areas of the Shire |
| 15 | 12 | Objective 6 | Amend | 6c - Creating and promoting a network of renowned bush trails |
| 16 | 12 | Objective 6 | Amend | 6d - Establishing a community event based around our lakes and beaches |
| 17 | 12 | Objective 6 | Amend | 6e - Developing and implementing a tree planting |

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Consideration of submissions to the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013) (contd)

| ID | Page | Section | Type | Staff Recommendation |
|----|------|-------------------------------------|-------|---|
| | | | | program |
| 18 | 12 | Objective 6 | Amend | 6g - Supporting and encouraging volunteer groups and champions |
| 19 | 12 | Objective 6 | Amend | 6h - Maintaining and making available information about the environment and environmental change |
| 20 | 12 | Objective 6 | Amend | 6i - Community awareness of sustainability and environmental issues impacting Wyong Shire |
| 21 | 13 | Who will help us get there | Amend | Delivering against environmental objectives requires input from individuals, community groups, Council, State and Federal Government agencies, local businesses and non government agencies. Council has a role to play in the delivery of strategies, which will require a partnership with the community and depend on support and resources from State Government. Delivery of strategies is supported by the following regional priorities, which are identified in detail in the Central Coast Regional Action Plan, developed by the NSW Government in December 2012. |
| 22 | 13 | We will know we are succeeding when | Amend | Increased rehabilitation of existing natural areas Increased preservation of endangered species and ecological communities Increased numbers of volunteers Increased community awareness of environmental issues |
| 23 | 17 | Regional Priority | Add | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalise town centres in the Wyong Shire to cater for expected population growth (Delivery Lead: Department of Premier and Cabinet and Central Coast Regional Development Corporation) • Deliver effective regional planning to cater for growth and encourage increased investment (Delivery Lead: Department of Planning and Infrastructure) • Promote the Central Coast as a choice tourism and event destination (Delivery Lead: NSW Trade & Investment) |
| 24 | 22 | Linking to State/Regional Plans | Add | Link to CSP objective 1 under headings for both Family and Community Services and Police and Justice |
| 25 | 23 | The State Plan is supported by... | Add | Central Coast Regional Action Plan |
| 26 | 27 | Measure of Progress | Amend | Environmental sustainability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of native species planted • Hectares of natural areas sustained • Length of riparian protection • Total waste to landfill, recycled waste, green waste • Support for environmental programs • Water quality |
| 27 | 27 | Measure of Progress | Amend | Community involvement in the Shire: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in activities and programs including levels of volunteering • Visitation to lakes |
| 28 | 29 | Essential Services | Amend | 6. Environment & Land Use: supports the natural and built environment on both private and public land by providing strategic planning and policy as well as controls over land-use in order to maintain a high quality of life and promotes sustainable use of resources on the Central Coast. |

4.1 Consideration of submissions to the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013) (contd)

| ID | Page | Section | Type | Staff Recommendation |
|----|------|------------------------------------|------|--|
| 29 | 31 | 'Where can I get more information' | Add | Community Profile: www.wyong.nsw.gov.au/my-community/our-profile Central Coast Quality of Life Survey Report: www.wyong.nsw.gov.au/my-community/quality-of-life |
| 30 | 32 | New | Add | Table listing all CSP objectives and strategies and Council's contribution to meet these |

In consideration of these submissions, Council may determine to make changes to the Plan and/or note any particular issue for operational staff to take up during the course of normal operational activity.

STRATEGIC LINKS

Wyong Shire Council Strategic/ Annual Plan

The Wyong Shire Council Strategic Plan 2013-17, currently being presented to Council for adoption, will require alignment to the revised Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013).

Long term Financial Strategy

The draft Long Term Financial Strategy is aligned to the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013).

Asset Management Strategy

The draft Asset Management Strategy is aligned to the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013).

Workforce Management Strategy

The draft Workforce Management Strategy is aligned to the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013).

Budget Impact

The budget impacts of the Community Strategic Plan are incorporated into Council's Long Term Financial Planning.

CONSULTATION

Community consultation was undertaken in accordance with the attached Community Engagement Strategy. This engagement and all submissions received during the public exhibition period are the subject of this report.

In addition to the community engagement extensive consultation was undertaken with Councillors, senior management, managers and staff in the formation of the draft Plan.

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The review of the Community Strategic Plan is both a legal requirement and best practice for local government throughout New South Wales. It is the foundation on which the integrated planning framework is built.

It serves as a roadmap for future activities and programs by the community, state government and Council and provides strategic leadership for governance activities.

MATERIAL RISKS AND ISSUES

The development of the Plan reduces corporate risks arising from business directions not being aligned with the community needs and direction. At the same time, careful review of all submissions is required to ensure that final decisions give preference to the overall community good including weighing up any advantages arising from suggestions made by individual submissions.

CONCLUSION

Council has exhibited the draft Plan in accordance with the Community Engagement Strategy and the requirements of the Local Government Act.

Submissions have been analysed, summarised and presented to Council for consideration.

Amendment of the draft Plan as outlined in this report is proposed prior to Council considering the final Community Strategic Plan 2030 (revised 2013) for adoption.

ATTACHMENTS

- | | | |
|----------|--|------------------|
| 1 | CONFIDENTIAL CSP Submission 1 - Enclosure | D03312130 |
| 2 | PUBLIC CSP Submission 2 | D03312114 |
| 3 | PUBLIC CSP Submission 3 | D03312117 |
| 4 | PUBLIC CSP Submissions 4-11 | D03312122 |
| 5 | PUBLIC CSP Submission 12 | D03312128 |