

# **Community Engagement Strategy**

**Wollondilly Development Control Plan 2015**



**Wollondilly**  
Shire Council

## 1.1 Introduction

A development control plan (DCP) is a planning document in the NSW planning system. They contain the detailed rules for development. They are the planning document that developers and residents are most likely to interact with and so it is important that all stakeholders are consulted when a DCP is being made.

It is proposed to make a new DCP for Wollondilly Shire in 2015. This DCP will have implications for all development within the Shire.

**This document specifies the minimum amount of consultation that will be undertaken with stakeholders. It is at Council's discretion to exceed the requirements of this document if it considers it appropriate once engagement has begun.**

## 1.2 Objectives

1. To ensure all stakeholders have access to accurate and clear information about the DCP so that they can understand what it proposes and how it will affect them.
2. To ensure all stakeholders have sufficient time to provide feedback on the draft DCP.
3. To ensure that the community is generally aware of the DCP and the opportunity to provide feedback.
4. To ensure that those who are particularly affected by changes in the DCP are directly contacted and made aware of the changes.
5. To ensure Councillors are engaged in the process but not put in a where stakeholders could be expect them to make decisions outside of the correct legal process.

## 1.3 Councillor engagement

1. Councillors were consulted at the Councillor workshop on 2 May 2015. This strategy reflects the outcomes of that consultation.
2. Councillors will be briefed after the exhibition process.
3. Councillors will be provided with a key contact for the exhibition period who will field Councillor and public questions and comments on the DCP.
4. Councillors will be invited to any public meetings or forums that may be organised.

## 1.4 Presentation of information

1. The DCP document will be available in 3 main formats:
  - a) Download from the website as a PDF (no charge)
  - b) Provided by post or at the front counter as a PDF on a CD (no charge)
  - c) Provided in printed form by post or at the front counter (\$30 for the entire document or \$5 for each volume for printing costs)
2. Council will also maintain a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document on the website which will be updated throughout the exhibition period with common questions that have been received.
3. Anyone who receives a written notification of the draft plan will be provided with a PDF copy of the documents on a CD.

### **1.5 Written notices**

Council will write to the following stakeholders:

- Any applicant that has submitted more than 5 development applications in Wollondilly in the last 3 years.
- Major developers that we know will be seeking to undertake residential development in Wollondilly in the next 5 years
- The community of each precinct that is proposed to no longer have a site specific DCP volume (Bingara, Bridgewater and The Oaks South)
- Those who are registered for notification of the Growth Management Strategy
- The chambers of commerce
- Members of Council's committees and advisory groups
- The proponents for any current or recently made planning proposal
- The land owners within PTT and PTTAG
- Anyone who made a submission on any current or recently made planning proposal

### **1.6 Advertisements**

Council will advertise the DCP exhibition on 3 consecutive weeks in a newspaper circulating in Wollondilly. It will also place a notice on its website and Facebook page.

### **1.7 Face to face meetings**

Council will organise a face to face meeting with any stakeholder who requests one. Council will be represented at such a meeting by a planning officer and any technical staff that Council considers to be appropriate. Councillors and the Mayor will generally not be present at such meetings.

### **1.8 Community forum**

The matter is to be returned to a Council meeting prior to adoption. This means that there will be an ordinary community forum at which stakeholders may speak.

It may be, however, that there will be many stakeholders who wish to speak in which case a special community forum may be more appropriate.

Any decision on the number and location of special community forums will be made by staff executive in consultation with Councillors.