



# PLANNING ON A PAGE


Planning Victoria's liveable communities together




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



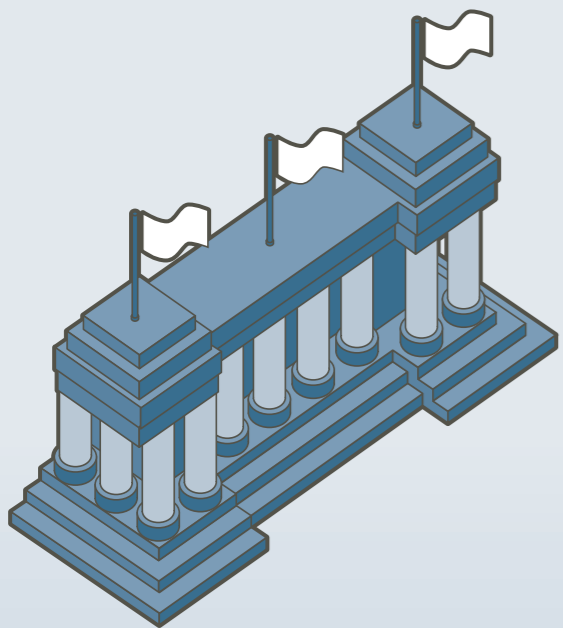
Broad strategies need to be developed to plan for these changes...



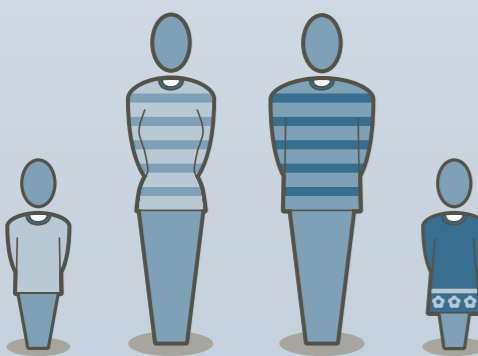
The planning rules ensure that broad strategies and policies can be implemented...



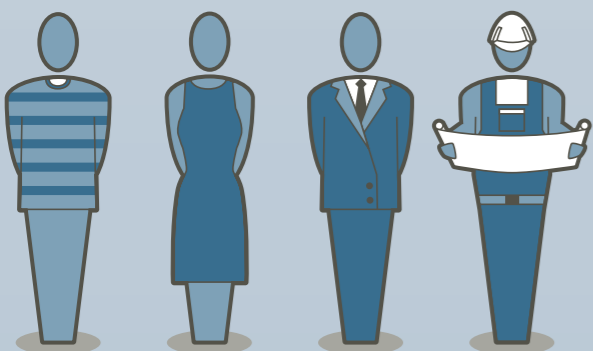
So that fair and transparent decisions that are consistent with the planning rules can be made...



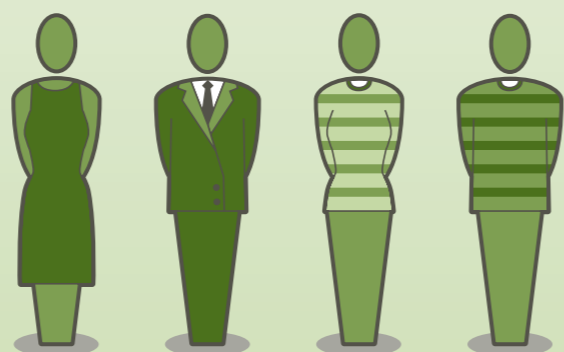
The Victorian Government looks at these needs to understand how to respond...



They work with the community and with councils to get broad agreement on the way 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...



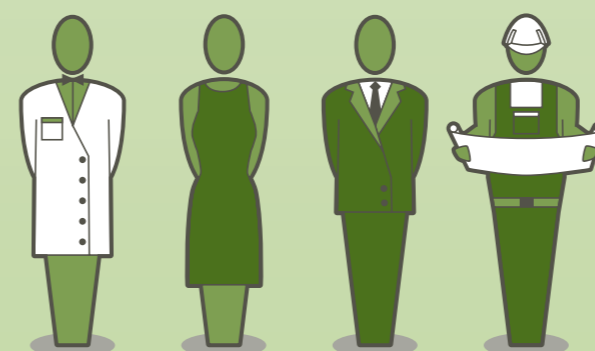
Strategic plans and policies setting out the way forward are agreed.



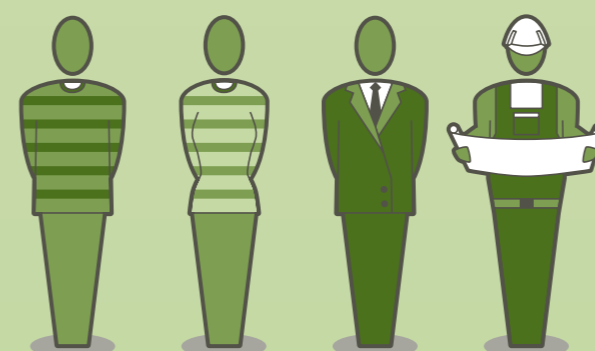
The Victorian Government and councils propose changes to the planning rules to deliver the policies...



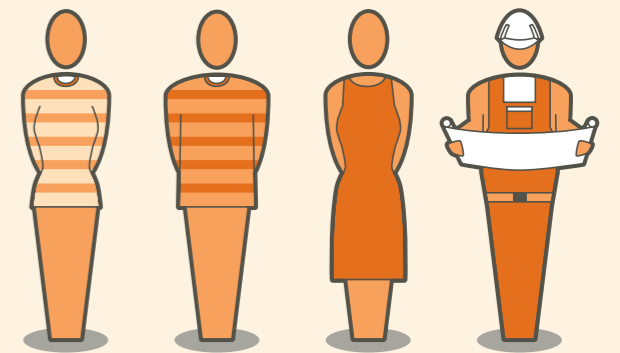
The community, councils and industry are asked about the proposed changes...



Some changes may need expert advice from an independent committee or panel.

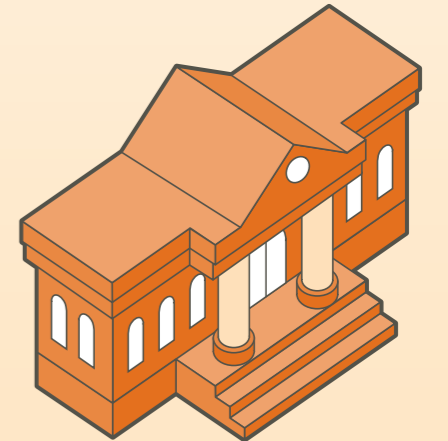


The Minister for Planning approves the changes and the planning controls are updated.



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 that 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 community's needs

Planning for the community's needs

Making fair and transparent planning decisions

## Understanding the community's needs

### Economic drivers

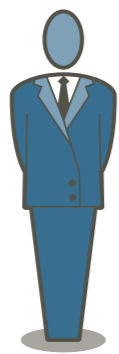
- » Population growth
- » Transport and land-use coordination
- » Airfield, ports and freight logistics
- » Infrastructure (e.g. water, waste, education, telecommunications)
- » Economic development (e.g. business, industry, forestry)
- » Access to employment
- » Agriculture
- » Tourism
- » Global economic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

### Social drivers

- » Affordable housing
- » Social housing
- » Planning for health
- » Heritage and culture
- » 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, wildfire)
- » Environmental protection
- » Climate change
- » Renewable energy
- » Sustainable design
- » Vegetation protection
- » Resource management and protection
- » Sustainable transport



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

## 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 that 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 develop the vision for the municipality with input from the community
- » These ideas are included in the planning scheme as local policies and the **Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS)**
- » A planning scheme can only be changed by a formal amendment process
- » Permit application decisions must be consistent with the planning scheme

### State-wide policies

- » *Victorian Transport Plan*
- » *Ready for Tomorrow: A Blueprint for Regional Victoria*
- » *Integrated Housing Strategy*
- » *Victorian Coastal Strategy*

“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 Planning and Community Development (DPCD)
  - > Makes recommendations to the Minister
  - > Administers changes to the planning controls as required
  - > May refer for additional expert input
  - > Can seek community input about proposals
- » Independent Advisory Committees
  - > May be appointed to provide advice on any planning decision under specific Terms of Reference
- » Independent Planning Panels
  - > Make recommendations to submissions to planning scheme amendments

## Making fair and transparent planning decisions

### Local Government

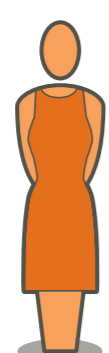
- » Acts as responsible authority for local planning matters
- » Assesses permit applications against the planning scheme
- » Refers application for specialist input
- » May require public notice and engagement
- » May request amendments to the Planning Scheme
- » May delegate a decision to a council 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 or through development facilitation
- » May delegate some decisions to DPCD

### Other decision makers

- » Development Assessment Committees
  - > Joint local/state government decision making body for key metropolitan areas
- » DPCD
  - > 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