Shellharbour CITY COUNCIL



2025 FACTSHEET

Local Strategic Planning Statement

FACT SHEET
Local Strategic Planning Statement

WHAT IS IT?

The Shellharbour Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) is a plan that shows how Shellharbour will grow and change over the next 20 years. It helps guide decisions about land use and development based on what the community needs, including homes, jobs, transport, and green spaces.

The LSPS includes:

- Actions: what Council will do before the next review
- Strategies: ideas and directions that guide future planning and partnerships

WHY DO WE NEED A LSPS?

Shellharbour is growing fast. By 2041, the population is expected to reach more than 109,000 people. The LSPS helps us plan for this growth in a smart and sustainable way. It makes sure we have the right mix of housing, jobs, transport, and green spaces, while protecting our environment and community values.

The LSPS is also a requirement under the NSW planning system. All councils must have an LSPS under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. It connects local planning with broader state and regional plans and helps make sure we are working towards the same goals.

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

The first LSPS was adopted in 2020, setting out a long-term vision for how our city would grow and develop. It was built on community values and priorities at the time, and helped guide decisions about housing, infrastructure, environment and jobs.

This 2025 review is the first major update to the original strategy. It updates the vision and actions based on:

- New population forecasts
- Housing needs
- Climate change impacts
- Community feedback
- State and regional planning changes

HOW TO READ THE LSPS

The LSPS is built around four themes:

- Housing & Growth: More homes in the right places
- Environment & Sustainability: Protecting nature and planning for climate change
- Community & Place: Creating safe, welcoming places with good services
- Jobs & Productivity: Supporting local jobs and businesses

Each theme has Planning Priorities that guide what Council focuses on.



HOW WILL THE LSPS AFFECT WHAT COUNCIL DOES?

The LSPS helps Council:

- Decide where new homes, parks, roads, schools, and hospitals should go
- Plan for better transport and community services
- Protect the environment and cultural heritage
- Support local jobs, businesses, and tourism
- Work with the NSW Government and other partners to deliver key projects

It also helps:

- Follow state planning laws and includes clear priorities and actions
- Inform updates to the Shellharbour Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP)
- Align with Council's Community Strategic Plan and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Regional Plan
- Is monitored and reported on regularly to track progress and stay up to date

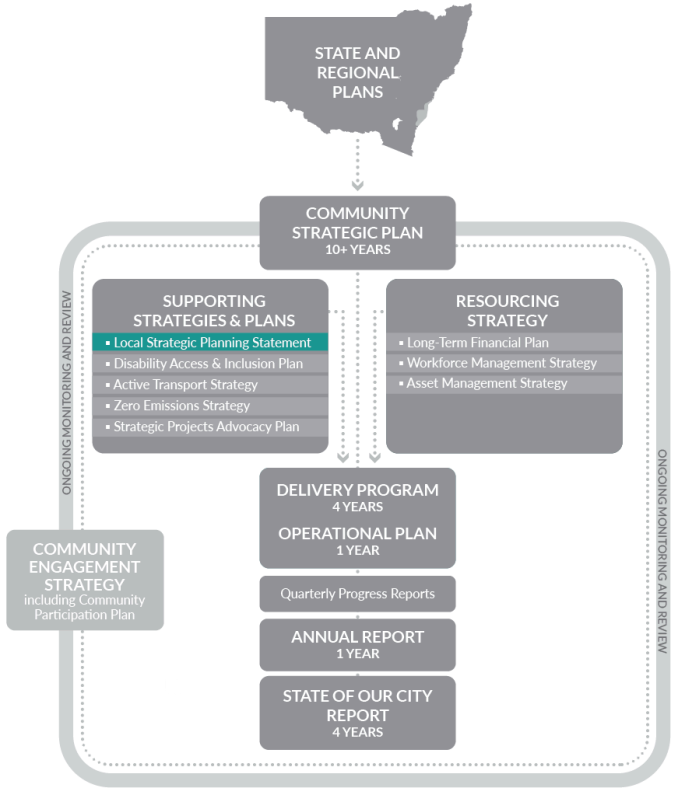
WHERE ARE WE UP TO?

The LSPS is on public exhibition from 21 July to 18 August 2025. This is your chance to read the updated plan and share your feedback.

Since 2020, Council has:

- Delivered new housing in Calderwood and Shell Cove
- Supported planning for the new Shellharbour Hospital
- Developed strategies for zero emissions, active transport, and open space
- Worked with the NSW Government on housing targets and regional planning

HOW IT FITS WITHIN OUR PLANS



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SUMMARY OF THE LSPS

We're planning for more homes in the right places. This means building a mix of housing types like apartments, townhouses, and family homes so everyone can find a place that suits their needs.

We're also making sure new homes are close to jobs, schools, shops, and transport, and that they're supported by the right infrastructure.



Housing & Growth

Planning Priority 1:

Provide housing supply in the right locations

Planning Priority 2:

Encourage housing that is more diverse and affordable

We're protecting Shellharbour's natural beauty, including our beaches, bushland and waterways, while planning for a greener future. This includes planting more trees, improving parks and open spaces, and designing neighbourhoods that are better for the environment. We're also working towards net zero emissions and helping our community prepare for climate change.



Environment & Sustainability

Planning Priority 3:

Protect and enhance Shellharbour's blue and green corridors

Planning Priority 4:

Plan for a sustainable and resilient City

Planning Priority 5:

Foster resilient places and communities that adapt to climate change

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SUMMARY OF THE LSPS

We want Shellharbour to be a place where everyone feels welcome and connected. That means creating safe, walkable neighbourhoods with great parks, community facilities and public spaces.

We're also planning for better access to health, education, and transport services so people can live well at every stage of life.



Community & Place

Planning Priority 6:

Provide equitable access to social services and infrastructure

Planning Priority 7:

Create and renew cohesive, safe and walkable local places

We're supporting local jobs and businesses by growing key areas like Shellharbour City Centre, the hospital precinct, and the airport.
We're also boosting tourism and helping new industries grow. This will help more people live and work locally and build a strong, diverse economy that benefits everyone



Jobs & Productivity

Planning Priority 8:

Drive economic growth by leveraging the city's strategic assets

Planning Priority 9:

Support vibrant town centres & employment lands

Planning Priority 10:

Grow the potential of Shellharbour's visitor economy

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OUR VISION

By 2046, Shellharbour will be a thriving, sustainable and resilient city that embraces change while protecting what makes it special.

Our city will offer a mix of homes for people of all ages and lifestyles, with better access to jobs, health care, education, and green spaces. Shellharbour City Centre will be the heart of our community, where people come together to live, work, and enjoy life.

Key areas like the hospital precinct, airport and marina will support jobs, tourism, and services. We'll grow in a way that keeps our natural beauty and cultural heritage strong, while creating neighbourhoods that are walkable, connected and good for the environment.

HOW WE'RE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

To support our growing community, we're focusing on key areas that will help Shellharbour thrive. These areas will help us grow in smart, connected and sustainable ways.

Key goals we're supporting:

- The East Lake Illawarra Corridor will become a major hub for jobs and homes, with better public transport and vibrant neighbourhoods
- Around the new Shellharbour Hospital, we're planning homes, shops, and services to support health workers and visitors
- At Shell Cove, a lively waterfront community will offer homes, tourism and recreation.
- Shellharbour Airport will grow as a business and travel hub
- Calderwood will continue to develop as a master-planned community with homes, parks and local services

SHELLHARBOUR 2046

Key opportunities



Lake Illawarra
Activated water body and foreshore

Shellharbour City Centre
The economic, social and cultural heart of Shellharbour

East Lake Illawarra
Rapid transport corridor

Calderwood
Leveraging our natural assets to improve the amenity in the west of the City

Shellharbour Airport
Transforming how we move as a region

Shellharbour Hospital
Creating a connected employment precinct

Shell Cove
Vibrant waterfront precinct

You can make a submission via one of the following ways:

We place our plans on public exhibition to allow members of the public to provide their feedback and have their say. Once you review the LSPS, you can provide feedback by the channels outlined below. Submissions can be made individually or as a group.

Online via the QR code

Through email to
Council@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

In writing

Addressed to:

Chief Executive Officer
Dharawal Country
Locked Bag 155
Shellharbour City Centre
NSW 2529