



What is a Community Development Strategy?

The Community Development Strategy and Action Plan is an endorsed Council Plan which will guide the Council in its decision making and resource allocation. The Community Development Strategy will assist Council in decision making and establishing priorities in the community. The Community Development Strategy will:

- Define and explain the concept of community development for Council and the region
- Clarify the role and responsibilities of Council in regard to community development in the region
- Provide clear direction to Council's Community development priorities and functions
- Outline how Council can work with, and alongside, the community, organisations and other levels of government to foster a strong, engagement and vibrant Gladstone region.

Why is Council undertaking this project?

In August 2018, Council transitioned to a new operating model and new Corporate Plan setting a clear direction towards creating a strong fabric of community connectedness, lifestyle and enhanced liveability in the Gladstone Region.

With a reinvigorated vision of Connect, Innovate, Diversify, Council has set nine (9) strategic goals, one of which

focuses on fostering our region to be engaged, involved and have proud communities.

Taking into consideration this new direction, an overarching Community Development Strategy and Action Plan, developed with the community, is critical to ensure Council's role and function in community development achieves the desired community outcomes.

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Community Development Strategy

What is community development?

Community development is a process of strengthening communities and their capacity to develop active, sustainable and supportive environments in which people live and work.

Community development is about community building to create a sense of belonging and improve peoples' health and wellbeing. It is about working together to create strong and vibrant communities.

What sort of community development activities does Council currently do?

A strong strategic emphasis has been placed on engagement, partnership and capacity building of and with the community, along with responsible governance to underpin Council's community development objectives.

Focus has been placed on seniors and youth development, cultural diversity, inclusivity and reconciliation, community

resilience in the event of natural disasters, volunteerism, open space activation, and active sport and recreation development. Whilst these priorities have been identified by Council, we are currently undertaking this project to consult with the community about these, and new and emerging priorities.

What other plans does Council have around community development?

The new Community Development Strategy and Action Plan must align with Council's Corporate Plan objectives and other key Council documents such as the Cultural Plan and Reconciliation Action Plan. These documents and others can be found on Council's website.

What will the information be used for?

The information gathered through the research and consultation will be used to assist in determining community development priorities, programs and activities delivered by Council. The information will be developed into the vision and associated actions for the Strategy.

How can I get involved?

Consultation will run during February-March 2020. Have your say by:

- Participate in the Community Reference Panel
- Complete a survey
- Attend a focus group
- Attend an information stall
- Participate online.

For more information visit conversations.gladstone.qld.gov.au/

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