



Active Living Integrated Planning & Reporting Resource for Councils



PREMIER'S COUNCIL
FOR ACTIVE LIVING
NEW SOUTH WALES



Active living matters are a good example of the need for coordination, as they must cross over council functional boundaries in order to achieve their potential impact.

Active living refers to opportunities for incorporating physical activity into routines of daily life as well as for sport and recreation.

The Active Living Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Resource has been prepared for the Premier's Council for Active Living (PCAL) and the New South Wales Division of Local Government (DLG), Department of Premier and Cabinet to provide guidance to councils (and other interested parties) on how to address active living principles and practices, as councils prepare and implement the new IPR Framework.

Active living should be addressed at all levels of the Framework from raising the issue during stakeholder engagement, through goals, objectives and strategies upfront, to specific actions targeted and budgeted in delivery programs.

Information summarised in this brochure is from the full guide to "Addressing Active Living through Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework", available at:

www.pcal.nsw.gov.au/local_government

Active living objectives

The following active living objectives can be pursued by councils via the IPR Framework:

- Quality open space, sporting and recreation facilities are accessible for all ages, ethnicities, ability levels and socio-economic groups;
- A range of physical activities is available for all ages, ethnicities, ability-levels and socio-economic groups;
- Active travel options (such as walking, cycling and public transport) are promoted between home, centres and attractions;
- Localities are walkable;
- Streets are attractive and safe;
- Town centres and other key destinations are safe, vibrant and attractive, day and night;
- Private developments address the street and are well connected to movement systems; and
- The community is well-informed about active living.

Key elements of the

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The Community Strategic Plan sits at the top of a Council's planning hierarchy. The purpose of the plan is to identify the community's main priorities and expectations for the future and to plan strategies for each of these goals.

Councils are required to prepare and implement a **Community Engagement Strategy** for consultation with the community in developing and reviewing their Community Strategic Plans.

Background information for an active living engagement strategy may include:

- basic data on the health of the local community.
- active living priorities in the NSW State Plan, State Health Plan and other regional plans/strategies
- Council's legal obligations: Council's Charter and social justice principles
- existing council service and regulatory activities that directly relate to active living (eg. open space, roads, cycleways, footpaths and health oriented programs)

State Agencies and non-government organisations should be key players in any engagement strategy.

Ideally, active living can be promoted in Council's **Community Strategic Plan** by:

- raising it as part of the Engagement Strategy in developing the Plan
- mentioning it in Council's vision and/or goals
- specifying objectives and strategies for active living
- coordinating existing active living related policies and documents, programs, projects and responsibilities
- including active living performance indicators

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

(10 YEAR HORIZON)

DELIVERY PROGRAM

(4 YEAR HORIZON)

OPERATIONAL PLAN

(ANNUAL)

ANNUAL BUDGET

DELIVERY PROGRAM & OPERATIONAL PLAN

The **Delivery Program** includes specific programs and projects that are Council's responsibility, and financial estimates over a 4 year horizon, in response to the objectives and strategies established by the Community Strategic Plan. The **Operational Plan** sets priority actions annually. At this stage, specific responsibilities are allocated for projects or activities and the monitoring of their success. The following active living advice is provided for moving to the detail:

- Elaborate on objectives and broad strategies identified in Council's Community Strategic Plan.
- Acknowledge that, at least in the short term, Delivery Program actions and Operational Plan priorities will reflect some current practices
- Identify obvious existing programs and service areas that cover active living, eg. recreation/open spaces, community development
- Identify existing actions relevant to active living eg. streets, cycleway and pathway construction and maintenance
- Incrementally realign programs and actions with the Community Strategic Plan's objectives

Ultimately, all active living related actions must be included in Council's **Operational Plan** to enable them to proceed, with detailed cost estimates that will provide further informed and credible information to be fed into the corporate budgeting process.

The IPR Framework



RESOURCING STRATEGY

All councils must develop and implement a **Resourcing Strategy** for the provision of appropriate resources to achieve the objectives and broad strategies identified in their Community Strategic Plan.

The **Resourcing Strategy** includes the following mandatory requirements:

- Long Term Financial Plan: 10 year minimum
- Workforce Plan: 4 year minimum
- Asset Management Plans: 10 year minimum

The DLG's IPR Manual (2010) describes the **Resourcing Strategy** as a decision making and problem solving tool - a critical link in translating strategic objectives and broad strategies into actions, with the various components acting as a reality check for discussing, detailing and prioritising actions in the Delivery Program and the Operational Plan.

PERPETUAL MONITORING & REVIEW FRAMEWORK

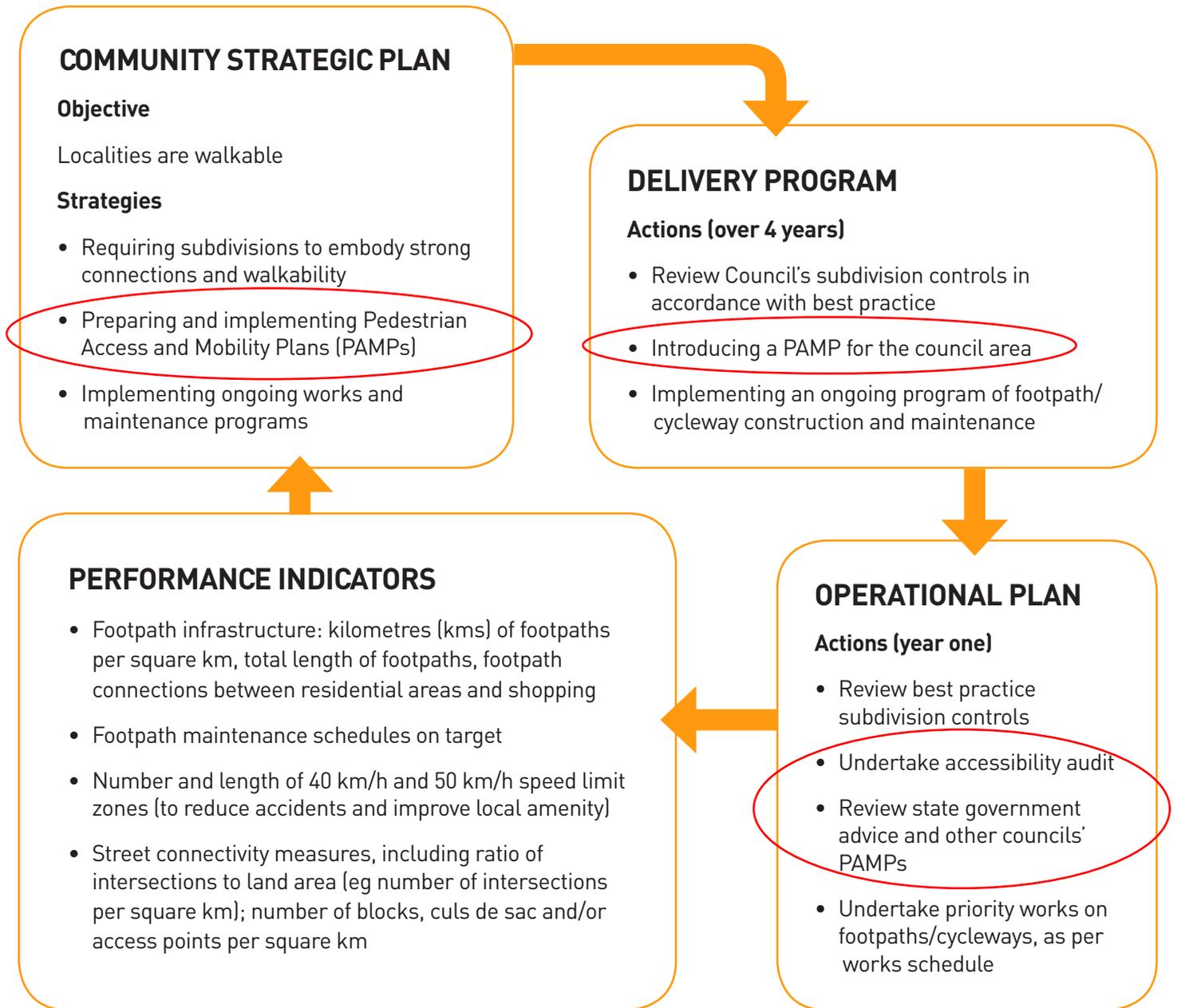
The new performance monitoring framework requires the establishment of key performance indicators not only at the Delivery Program and Operational Plan levels, but also in relation to the higher order goals and objectives in the Community Strategic Plan. Such measures would feature in Council's reporting on the implementation of these plans.

DLG's IPR Manual (2010) contains a list of performance measures that relate to active living. For example operational performance measures relating to active travel (a key element of active living) are:

- Increase in residential densities in centres;
- Take up rate of mixed use developments in centres;
- Cycling infrastructure: kilometres of continuous cycleways, total length of cycleways, bicycle parking facilities at major destinations and end-of-trip facilities at major destinations;
- Development and implementation of local Integrated Transport Plans;
- Quality of infrastructure connections, including integrated bicycle network access to major destinations;
- Percentage of local population within walking distance of public transport stops; and
- Frequency of public transport to major destinations.

How the elements fit together: the Community Strategic Plan objectives to specific actions

Example "Localities are Walkable"



For more information, visit our website:

www.pcal.nsw.gov.au/local_government

A web based resource is expected to be available on the DLG website in early 2011 www.dlg.nsw.gov.au (go to IPR page)

PCAL aims to encourage more people in NSW to be more active every day.

The Council works with government, business and community partners in promoting greater involvement in active living, strengthening physical and social environments that facilitate and support active lifestyles, active travel and liveability. PCAL ensures that government policies and strategies provide every opportunity for the citizens of NSW to embrace active living through all stages of their life.

PCAL comprises senior representatives from NSW Government agencies, and members from the business and community sectors.



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