

Strategic and Spatial Planning

(Draft Planning Bill - Chapter 4)

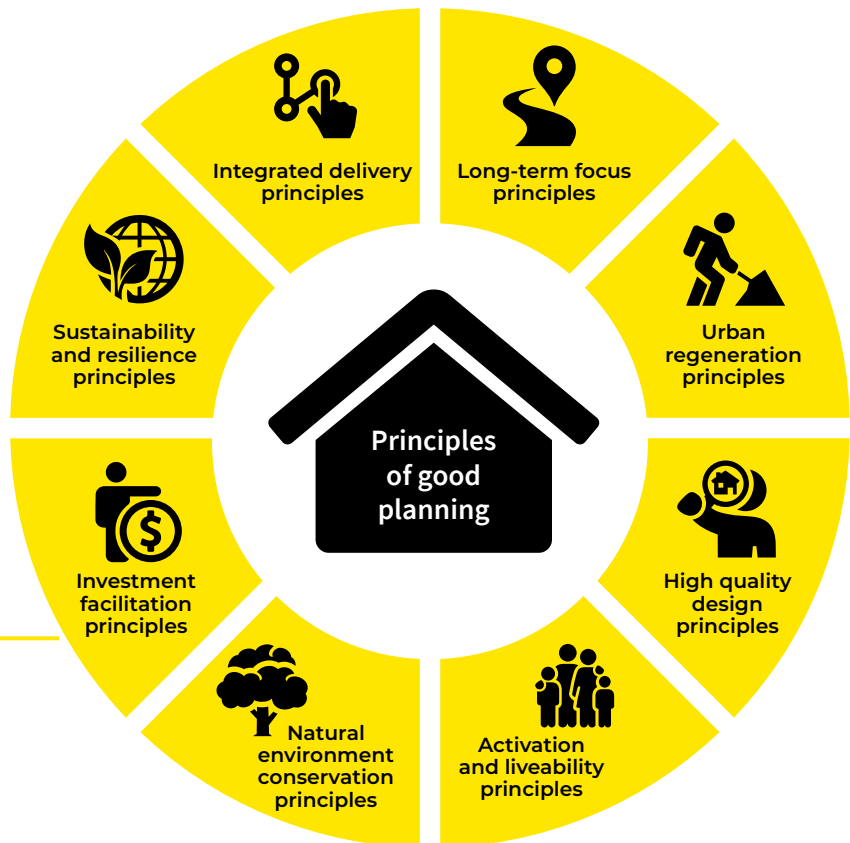
Planning plays an integral role in shaping our Territory. The new outcomes-focused planning system provides a framework through which the wellbeing of residents, liveability and prosperity will become the main priorities for planning in the ACT.



Emphasising the role of strategic and spatial planning will allow the ACT Government to be more active in guiding the future of the Territory. It will also provide a clearer way for Canberrans to participate in strategic planning in the ACT.

What is strategic and spatial planning?

The act of anticipating and influencing change in the Territory, focussing on what we need and where we need it. Amongst many other things, planning supports access to housing, employment, transport, education and health services by setting out anticipated infrastructure needs and transport corridors, earmarking sites for essential services and protecting open space for the benefit of our health and recreation. Strategic planning also allows us to identify land for urban development while protecting areas of environmental value.



● Principles of good planning

The task of planning is complex. The Planning Bill includes Principles of Good Planning that must be taken into account in strategic and spatial planning.

● Principles of good consultation

Community participation is a fundamental element of a good planning system. The Planning Bill proposes to introduce Principles of Good Consultation that will guide the various consultation processes in the Act and make sure that community views inform decision making.



Emphasis on strategic and spatial planning

The reformed planning system bolsters the important role of planning in shaping the Territory—providing a framework through which liveability, prosperity and the wellbeing of residents can be achieved.



Improved line of sight

Sometimes there is a disconnect and delay between new planning policy positions and what is reflected in the Territory Plan. This will be addressed in two ways:

- i. Strategic and spatial planning at the district scale
- ii. Simplified processes including more efficient ways to turn Government policy into planning requirements within the Territory Plan.

The planning strategy

The Planning Strategy is the key strategic planning document in the Territory. The Planning Strategy must set out the long-term planning policy and goals for the ACT, consistent with the object of the Act. It must also include an overarching spatial vision, strategic directions for the ACT and the desired future planning outcomes.

District strategies

District strategies are proposed to fill a disconnect between city-wide strategic planning and the detailed, site-specific Territory Plan.

A district strategy is a continuation of strategic and spatial planning at the district-level. District strategies will contain the long-term planning policy and goals for each of Canberra's districts and must be consistent with the planning strategy.

They will include strategies, spatial policies, and desired future planning outcomes for each district to guide and manage change in the future. They will set out principles and policies for development of areas within the districts, including future urban areas, and may identify areas where future detailed planning is needed.

