



# A new Territory Plan

(Draft Planning Bill - Chapter 5)

The Territory Plan is the ACT's key statutory planning document.

A new Territory Plan will be developed as part of the Planning System Review and Reform Project.

## Why do we need a new Territory Plan?

- **We need a new Territory Plan to give effect to our desired strategic and spatial planning outcomes.**

With the shift to an outcomes-focussed planning system, the rules and criteria approach within the current Territory Plan is no longer suitable.

We need a new Territory Plan that reflects our desired future planning outcomes and is accompanied by planning provisions that guide outcomes-focussed planning and development.

## What will it look like?

The new Territory Plan will be made under the Planning Bill. It will be shaped to better reflect and deliver on the Government's planning policy and the core principles of the Planning Bill.

The content of the new Territory Plan will be informed through a review of the policy intent of existing planning strategies and policies and related Government strategies that can be given effect through the planning system. This includes opportunities to better integrate current Government policy into the new Territory Plan, such as the ACT Housing Strategy, the Climate Change Strategy and the ACT Transport Strategy.

The Planning Bill establishes a high-level framework for the important role of the Territory Plan in an outcomes-focussed planning system.

The Planning Bill requires the Territory Plan to contain:

- a map (the Territory Plan map) identifying districts and designating land-use zones in the ACT
- the policy outcomes to be achieved by the plan
- requirements and outcomes against which development proposals are assessed
- provisions that support compliance with requirements for undertaking development.



### Australian Government legislation

The Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988 (Cth) (PALM Act) applies to the ACT.

The PALM Act provides the object of the Territory Plan: **to ensure the planning and development of the Territory to provide the people of the Territory with an attractive, safe and efficient environment in which to live and work and have their recreation.**



### Improved connection with Government strategies

The Planning Bill provides better connections between the Territory Plan and other ACT Government policies and strategies with planning-related outcomes. The Bill provides that these should be considered when making and amending the Territory Plan, and provides processes for these policies to be efficiently added to the Territory Plan so it reflects current Government policy.





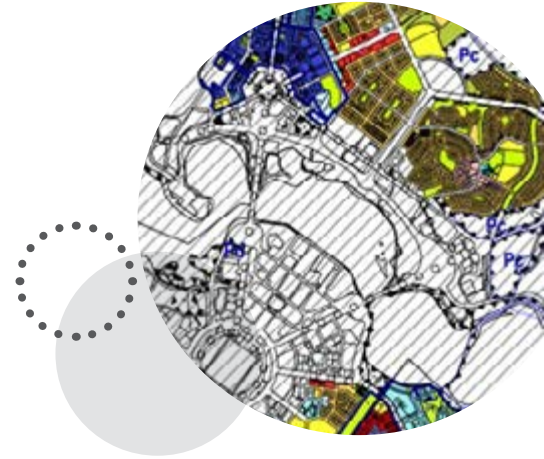
Under the Planning Bill, the new Territory Plan:

- must promote principles of good planning
- must give effect to the ACT Planning Strategy and district strategies
- may give effect to relevant outcomes related to planning contained in other Government strategies and policies.

This provides a more direct link between planning policies and the development of provisions within the Territory Plan.

The new Territory Plan will better reflect, protect and enhance the existing and desired character of our eight urban districts, with development provisions tailored to meet and reflect their unique characteristics.

A key feature of the new Territory Plan will be a clear and simple structure that focusses on achieving the policy intent. Another primary goal is to foster innovation and good design.



## How will it be made?

The Planning Bill sets out the process for making the initial Territory Plan for the new planning system (see chapter 5). This includes:

- the Territory Planning Authority making a draft plan
- consultation on the draft plan
- ACT Government Executive and Legislative Assembly approval.

## Where to from here?

At key points in the reform process during 2022, community members and industry experts will help us develop the new Territory Plan through dedicated technical and community reference groups. We'll also seek broader community engagement on the draft Territory Plan later in 2022, providing an opportunity for everyone to have their say on its make-up and content.