

# MEDIA RELEASE

## NAMBUCCA VALLEY COUNCIL SEEKS COMMUNITY INPUT FOR NEW COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Nambucca Valley Council is calling on community members to help shape the future of the region by providing input into the refresh of its Community Strategic Plan. This Plan sets out the community's priorities and aspirations for the next decade and is being updated by Council to reflect the evolving needs and values of the Nambucca Valley.

### What is the Community Strategic Plan?

The Community Strategic Plan represents the highest level of strategic planning undertaken by a local council. It outlines the main priorities and aspirations of the community over the next ten years and provides a clear set of objectives to achieve this vision. The General Manager, Bede Spannagle said: *"It's not just a Council plan - it's the community's plan, and all levels of government, business, education, community groups and individuals have a role to play in developing it and achieving the community's vision for 2035."*

### Why update the plan now?

Council's strategic plans need to align with the community's needs and aspirations. The current plan requires a substantial update to reflect recent changes in the community following the pandemic, natural disasters, housing and cost of living pressures. Following the local government election on 14 September 2024, the newly elected Council must adopt the updated Community Strategic Plan by 30 June 2025. Council has resolved that significant updates are necessary to address the community's evolving challenges and opportunities.

### How can the community be involved?

The General Manager, Bede Spannagle said: *"Council wants to hear from residents and visitors across the Nambucca Valley about their experiences, values, and hopes for the future. Community input is critical for ensuring the updated plan accurately represents the aspirations of the entire Nambucca Valley."*

There are three main ways to get involved:

#### 1. Complete the online survey

The community can share its thoughts in the online survey, available from 17 July 2024 to 30 August 2024. This feedback will directly influence the vision and themes of the updated Community Strategic Plan. Scan the QR code to access the survey.



#### 2. Attend a pop-up and drop-in event

Join us at various locations across the Nambucca Valley in August. These informal sessions are designed to gather community input on key issues and opportunities. Community members don't need to book or register – just drop by and have a chat with Council's team. Events will be happening in Macksville, Nambucca Heads, Valla Beach, Scotts Head, Bowraville, Taylors Arm and Eungai Creek.

#### 3. Stay informed

Stay up-to-date with the latest news, resources, and updates on the Community Strategic Plan by visiting Council's dedicated webpage. Here, you can find detailed information about the project process and access relevant documents.

### What's next?

The outcomes of the initial community engagement will be reported to the new Council after the Local Government election in September. More consultation will occur later in the year to explore key themes in greater detail. The draft Community Strategic Plan is expected to be formally exhibited for public feedback around March 2025, with the final plan to be adopted by 30 June 2025.

For more information, visit <https://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/Council/Community-Strategic-Plan-Community-Consultation>

### ALL MEDIA ENQUIRIES TO:

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