



# State Planning Strategy 2050

Planning for sustained growth and prosperity

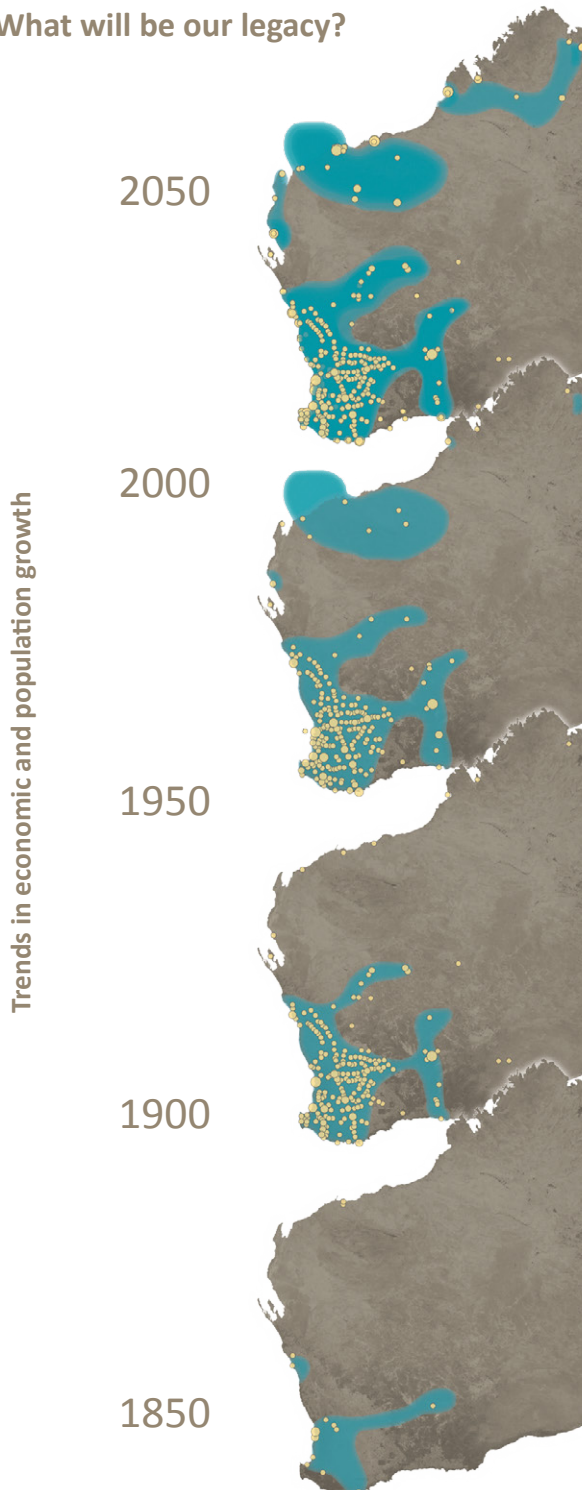
## Executive summary





## Executive Summary

### What will be our legacy?



### Planning for sustained growth and prosperity

Western Australia is experiencing a period of sustained growth with a high level of public and private investment being channelled into infrastructure and development - a period of great promise and opportunity for all Western Australians.

The State Planning Strategy 2050 is the Government's strategic planning response to the challenges Western Australia is likely to face. It contemplates a future in which high standards of living, improved public health and an excellent quality of life are enjoyed by present and future generations of Western Australians.

The Strategy proposes that diversity, liveability, connectedness and collaboration must be central to the vision of sustained growth and prosperity.

**A diverse State** - offering a diversity of ecosystems, landscapes, enterprises, people and cultures

**A liveable State** - the place of choice for the brightest and best

**A connected State** - as connected to the rest of the world as any other place

**A collaborative State** - enabling alignments that progress the State's sustained growth and prosperity

The Strategy, with a vision to 2050, takes into account what is known about the future and the expectations of Western Australians to provide a guide for future land-use planning and development.

It envisages that by 2050 Western Australia will double its current population and will have a diverse range of well-connected and vibrant communities and regional centres that are resilient, active and respectful of cultural difference.

Standards of living will continue to be amongst the highest in the world. Improved connections and smarter technologies will enhance the State's ability to attract global and domestic investment capital where and when it is most needed.

The State Government looks forward to working with local government, the private sector and all interested Western Australians in the application and evaluation of the State Planning Strategy 2050.

*'The decisions we make today,  
shape our tomorrow'*

# A State strategic context

Change is inevitable, and the drivers of change need to be fully understood because they are complex and interrelated.

Global and domestic factors likely to influence the State’s future development include climate change, population growth, fluctuations in the global economy, changing technology and workforce requirements, regional expansion, the need for diversification and the provision of sufficient access to water, food and energy in a cost-competitive economic environment.

Reflecting this changing and increasingly complex environment, the State Planning Strategy 2050 offers an integrated whole-of-Government view of the strategic planning needed to respond to the challenges and opportunities these factors present for the land-use planning and development of Western Australia.

The Strategy outlines the Government’s intention to undertake a collaborative approach in planning for the State’s land availability, physical and social infrastructure, environment, economic development and security.

It offers a strategic context and guide for future strategies, plans, policies and decisions by public and local authorities with specific responsibilities or influence in the sustainable use and development of land throughout the State.

## Delivery culture:

To realise the State’s potential, there is a need to think and work collaboratively to better manage change and drive sustainable development. Improving the ability of the State to become better at anticipating and adapting to change is a key focus of this strategy.

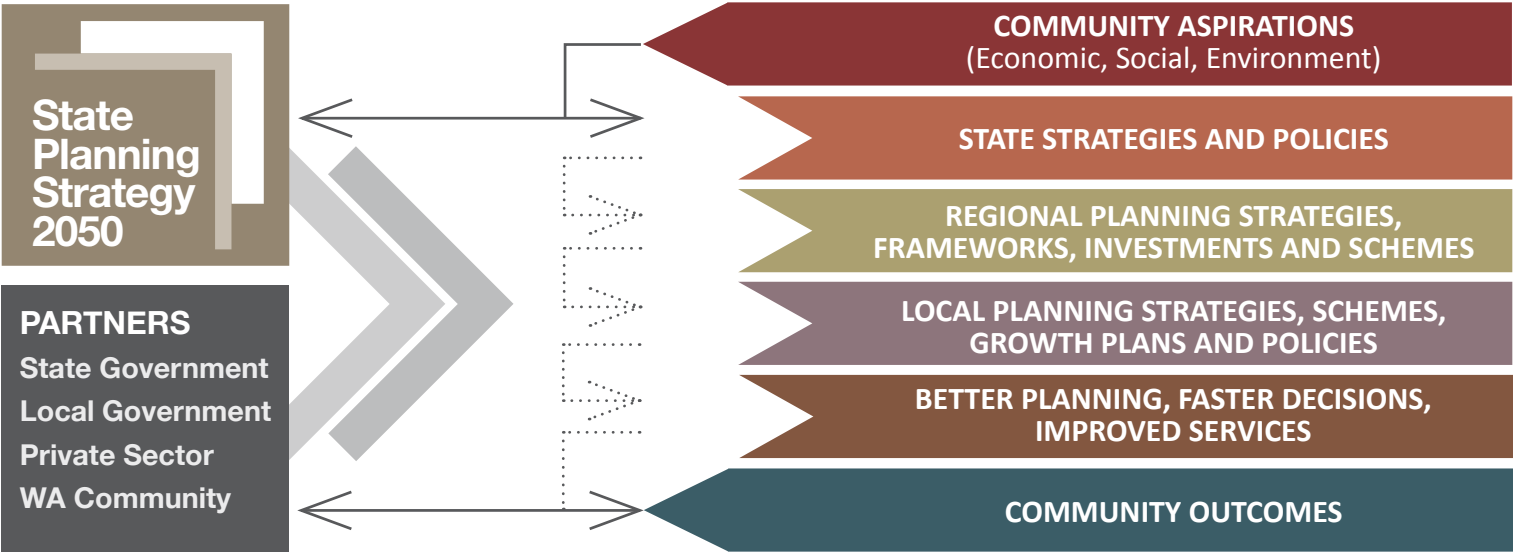
The Strategy signals the transition of the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) and the Department of Planning into a strategic lead role in the planning and development of the State.

This transition seeks to build strategic planning capacity and capability around a State vision that is based on a set of State planning principles, strategic goals and objectives.

This Strategy places a priority on economic and population growth as the key drivers of land use and land development. Its success relies on a collaborative approach to strategic planning that is based on a ‘can do’ attitude and an integrated ‘systems’ view of land use planning and development.

To appreciate its potential, it should be viewed in its entirety and not as a series of individual parts.

## The State Planning Strategy positioning



# State Planning Strategy 2050



State Planning Strategy structure

VISION: SUSTAINED GROWTH AND PROSPERITY			
Diverse	Liveable	Connected	Collaborative
PRINCIPLES			
Community	Infrastructure	Economy	Regional development
	Environment	Governance	
STRATEGIC GOALS			
Global competitiveness	Strong and resilient regions	Sustainable communities	
	Infrastructure planning and coordination	Conservation	
STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS			
1. Economic development	2. Physical infrastructure	3. Social infrastructure	
1.1 Resource economy	2.1 Movement	3.1 Spaces and places	
1.2 Knowledge transfer	2.2 Water	3.2 Affordable living	
1.3 Tourism	2.3 Energy	3.3 Health and wellbeing	
1.4 Agriculture and food	2.4 Waste	4. Environment	
1.5 Remote settlements	2.5 Telecommunications	5. Security	
1.6 Land availability			
ACTION PLANNING			
	Implementation	Evaluation	

The Strategy is based on a framework of planning principles, strategic goals and State strategic directions, with its development involving considerable research, analysis and consultation. It is structured into five sections (see figure).

### Application:

The Strategy is a guide from which public and local authorities can express or frame their legislative responsibilities in land-use planning, land development, transport planning and related matters.

In providing a set of State planning principles, strategic goals and objectives this Strategy can be used as a basis to find synergies between competing, complex and often interrelated land-use planning and development issues.

Importantly, the Strategy can also be used to guide, inform and unite:

- local community plans, growth plans and local planning schemes and strategies with structure planning and development assessments;
- project approvals through the Government’s Lead Agency Framework;
- planning for the coordination of physical and community infrastructure;
- region scheme amendments, regional planning and infrastructure frameworks, regional investments and service delivery programs; and
- investment proposals into areas and sectors of the State most likely to generate a return in the public interest.

The principles - *Balancing competing demands*

Six interrelated and interdependent principles underpin and inform this strategy:

- **Community** – enabling diverse, affordable, accessible and safe communities
- **Economy** – facilitating trade, investment, innovation, employment and community betterment
- **Environment** – conserving the State’s natural assets through sustainable development
- **Infrastructure** – ensuring infrastructure supports development
- **Regional development** – building the competitive and collaborative advantages of the regions
- **Governance** – building community confidence in development processes and practices.

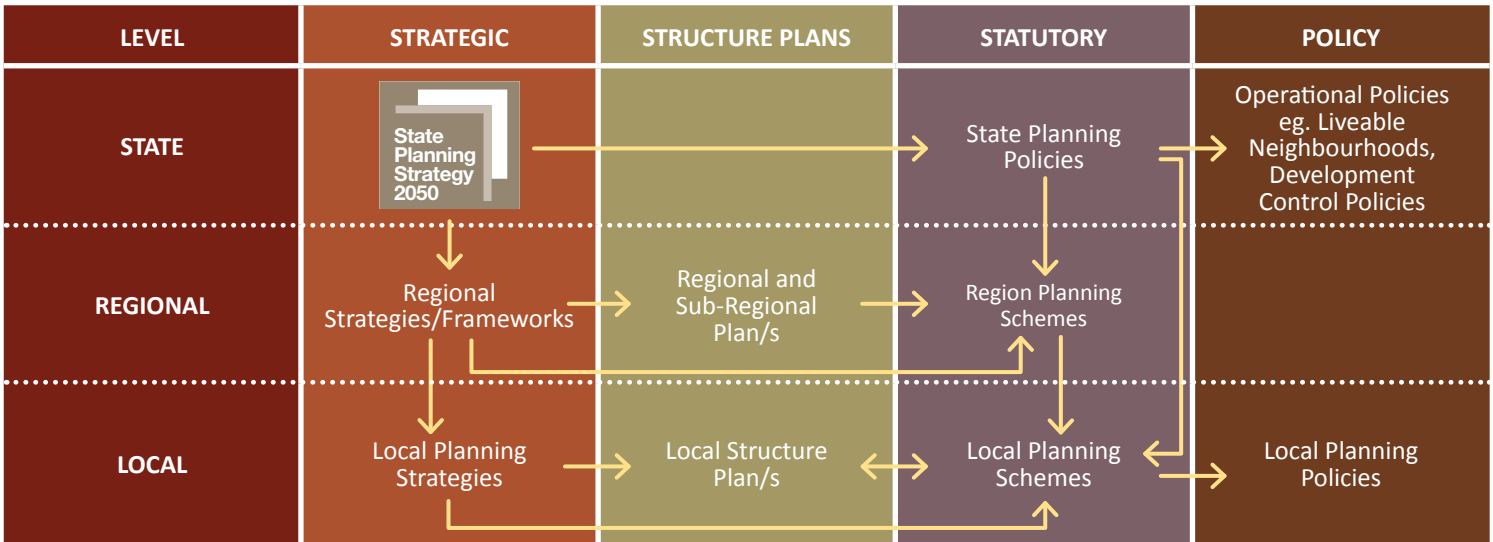
Strategic goals - *Managing change*

Strategic goals that define the Strategy’s quest for sustained growth lead toward global competitiveness, strong and resilient regions, high capacity and adaptive infrastructure, and the conservation and management of natural assets within sustainable communities.

There are many pathways to achieve sustained growth. Realising this vision will involve addressing five interrelated strategic goals:

- **Global competitiveness** – building on and strengthening the state’s diverse economic base
- **Strong and resilient regions** – developing regional resources through economic expansion and inter-regional collaboration
- **Sustainable communities** – creating resilient communities enhanced by investment in infrastructure and social capital
- **Infrastructure planning and coordination** – integrating infrastructure networks to achieve efficiencies and synergy in pursuit of economic growth
- **Conservation** – conserving the natural environment through sustainable development and prudent use of resources.

Overview of the Western Australian planning system



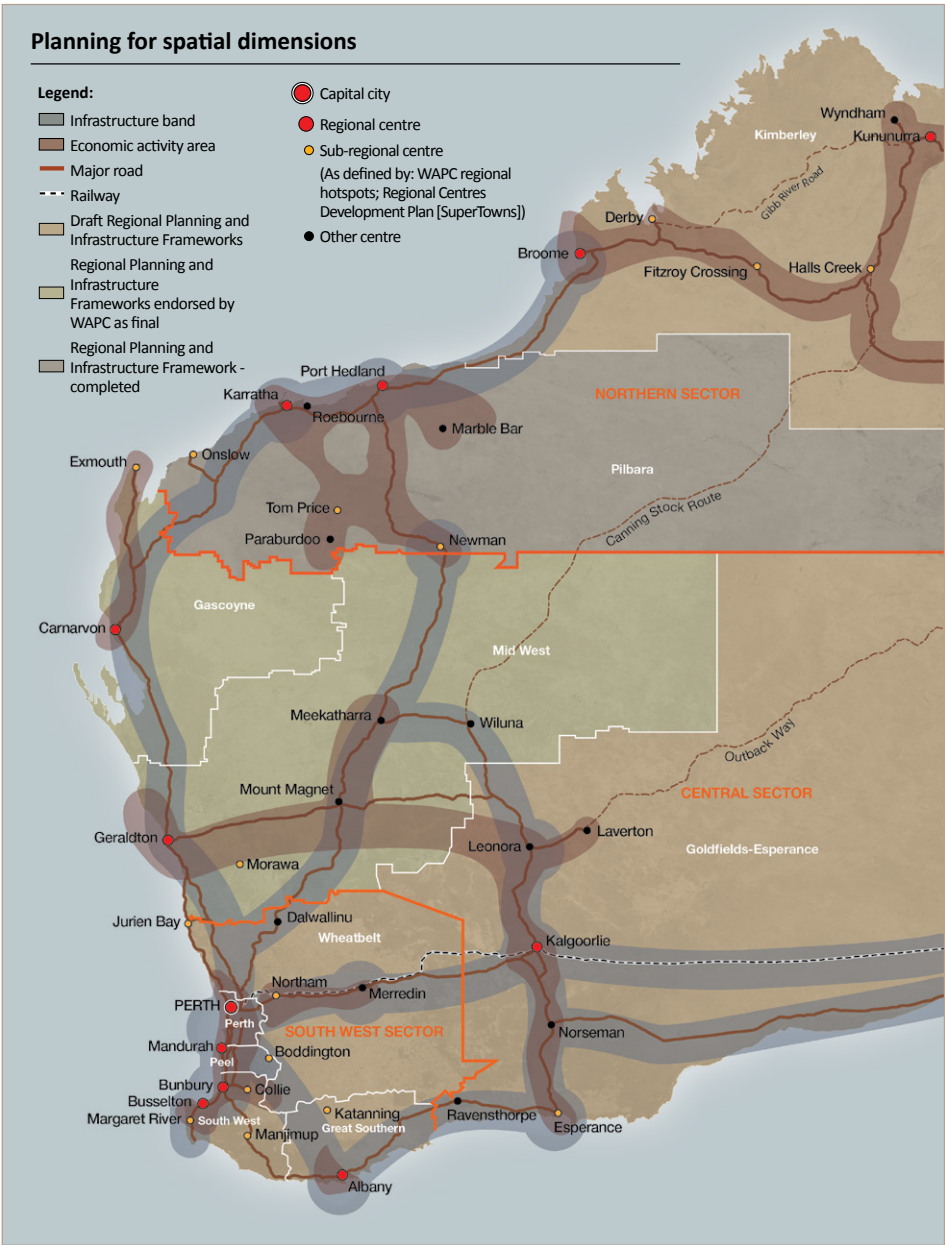
The spatial dimensions - Towards a State spatial plan

The State Planning Strategy 2050 envisages a statewide network of regional centres, infrastructure bands and projected economic activity areas resulting from the application of the strategic goals and directions of the document.

It reveals the potential for growth in regional Western Australia and its emergence as a hotspot for capital investment, which reinforces the importance of regional planning.

The strategy considers Western Australia in the context of three sectors:

1. The **Northern Sector** is rapidly gaining importance in national and global trade, investment and commerce, driven by increasing resource demand. This will be enhanced by further economic opportunities within the context of Northern Australia, particularly in tourism and agriculture.
2. The **Central Sector** has a growing and diverse economy underpinned by mining, agriculture, fisheries and tourism and is poised to become a significant contributor to the nation’s mining, scientific, technological, research and innovation industries by 2050.
3. The **South West Sector** with its diverse economic base will continue to house the majority of the State’s population and have the highest level and greatest range of health and education services, cultural activities and employment.



# SPS Framework

## Strategic directions - Guiding change

There are a number of interrelated and interdependent State strategic directions that will influence the future development of Western Australia.

These key strategic directions are summarised as follows:

**1. Economic development** – facilitating coordinated and sustainable economic development and diversification.

- **The resources economy** – maintaining and enhancing Western Australia’s position as the destination of choice for responsible exploration and resource development.
- **Education, training and knowledge transfer** – making Western Australia globally competitive as a creative, innovative and knowledge-based economy.
- **Tourism** – promoting and enhancing a range of experiences unique to the State, supported by iconic landscapes, biodiversity, culture, arts and events.
- **Agriculture and food** – enabling the State’s food supply chain to meet the projected demands of its domestic and global food and fisheries markets.
- **Remote settlements** – enabling remote settlements to maintain economic and community development through improved connectivity, services and cultural support.
- **Land availability** – ensuring the sustainable supply, use and development of land with a strong presumption in favour of the sustainability of prime agriculture land.

**2. Physical infrastructure** – coordinating physical infrastructure with development for community betterment.

- **Movement of people, resources and information** – managing the movement of people, goods and services through an integrated network connected locally, regionally, nationally and globally.
- **Water** – supporting Western Australia’s growth and development by managing the availability and quality of water sustainably.
- **Energy** – enabling secure, reliable, competitive and clean energy that meets the State’s growing demand.

- **Waste** – managing waste as a resource through innovation, waste reduction, recycling, strategic sites and infrastructure corridors.

- **Telecommunications** – ensuring those responsible for telecommunications take into account the State’s planning and development priorities and requirements.

**3. Social infrastructure** – enabling liveable, inclusive and diverse communities.

- **Spaces and places** – creating spaces and places that foster culture, liveability, enterprise and identity.
- **Affordable living** – enabling affordable living through housing diversity and compact settlements.
- **Health and wellbeing** – encouraging active lifestyles, community interaction and betterment.

**4. The environment** – conserving biodiversity, achieving resilient ecosystems, protecting significant landscapes and managing the State’s natural resources in a sustainable manner.

**5. Security** – enabling defence and associated industries to secure strategic economic, ecological and social assets.

Each strategic direction is structured into five parts:

State Strategic Direction	Purpose/Function
Objective	The desired outcome of a strategic direction
Overview	Summary of a strategic direction as it relates to the State’s sustained growth
Key facts	The latest available information about a strategic direction
Approach	Key elements of a strategic direction that will contribute to the objective
State challenges	Issues that must be considered when undertaking the approach



## Implementation - Making it happen

*Collaborative action can achieve State strategic goals and objectives more effectively than any single organisation acting alone.*

Realising the ambitions of the State Planning Strategy 2050 will require organisations and people participating in the planning system to work together, in a mature and integrated way that ensures the sharing of information and ideas, and most importantly the pooling of resources.

The Strategy will be used by the Government as a basis to plan for and coordinate regional and urban infrastructure across the State, improve efficiency of infrastructure investment, and to facilitate the consideration of project approvals, delivery of services and urban land supply.

A collaborative whole-of-government approach to land-use planning and development issues is the most effective way to reach timely, integrated decisions.

The Strategy will be implemented using the capability, capacity and legislative levers available to the Western Australian Government and will be delivered through an integrated suite of mechanisms including strategic planning, policy, research and development, regional planning and local development.

## Evaluation - Tracking the progress

The State Planning Strategy 2050 provides a State strategic planning context that acts as a focal point for:

- the integration of strategic planning and development across the State;
- decision-making that addresses long and short term economic, environmental and social considerations;
- continual improvement of planning processes, tools and development outcomes;
- tracking landuse planning and development outcomes;
- prospective reporting on the state of planning in Western Australia; and
- collaborative partnerships between Government and the private sector.

A periodic 'State of Planning' report will provide the WAPC with information on the extent to which land-use planning and development priorities may need to be adjusted for greater on-ground effect within the context of the Strategy's implementation.

A structural review of the Strategy will be undertaken every five years by the WAPC.

*'Better planning, faster decisions  
and improved services'*

*The SPS is available for viewing or downloading from the planning website [www.planning.wa.gov.au](http://www.planning.wa.gov.au)*

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