



# Forum on Special Rate Variation Options and Review of Community Strategic Plan

# Agenda

- Special Rate Variation
  - Objective
  - Overview, Background, Options & Impacts
  - Where to from here
- Community Strategic Plan
  - Objective
  - Overview & Process
  - Where to from here



# Special Rate Variation Objective

- To promote awareness in the community of the need for and impacts of the proposed extension to the existing special rate variation



# Overview

- Community's highest priority is maintaining roads
- Approx. \$1.5m annual roads expenditure from current special rate variation that expires on 30 June 2013
- Proposal to extend special rate variation for one year





# Rates

- 44% of Council's income from Rates
- Rates Notice = General Rates + Service Chrgs
- General Rates = Base Amount + Ad Valorem
- IPART sets annual increases (rate peg)





## Rates & Charges

2012 / 2013

1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013

T 02 4993 4100  
F 02 4993 2500  
council@cessnock.nsw.gov.au  
www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

PO Box 152  
62-78 Vincent Street  
Cessnock NSW 2325  
ABN 60 919 148 928

Mr Average Ratepayer  
123 Noname Street  
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

017

Interest is calculated daily on overdue  
rates and charges at 10% p.a.

Description & Location of property rated by Cessnock City Council

LOT 1 DP XXX

123 Noname Street CESSNOCK

Particulars of Rates & Charges	Rate	Rateable Value	Amount
Gen Residential Ad Valorem	0.00467187	120,000.00	\$560.62
Gen Residential - Base Amount	410.00	1.00	\$410.00
Domestic Waste Mgmt Serv Chg	535.00	1.00	\$535.00
Hunter Central Rivers Catch. Mgmt Auth.	0.000111	120,000.00	\$13.32
Stormwater Mgmt Serv Chg - Residential	25.00	1.00	\$25.00
LESS Pension Rebate			-\$277.85

Your Waste Management Charge includes a State Government Levy of \$93.00 per tonne

1st Instalment	2nd Instalment	3rd Instalment	4th Instalment	Total Amount
\$318.09	\$316.00	\$316.00	\$316.00	\$1,266.09
31/08/2012	30/11/2012	28/02/2013	31/05/2013	

IF YOU ELECT TO PAY BY instalments the above amounts must be paid by the dates shown

DEDUCT ANY PAYMENT  
SINCE 16/07/2012

PLEASE TURN OVER FOR HOW TO PAY

☐ RECEIPT REQUIRED

GENERAL MANAGER

*John J. Thomas*



## Rates & Charges

2012 / 2013

01/07/2012 - 30/06/2013

ASSESSMENT No: 123456789

NAME: Mr Average Ratepayer



Bill Code: 918664  
Ref:

Telephone and Internet Banking - BPAY\*  
Contact your bank or financial institution  
to make this payment from your cheque,  
savings, debit or transaction account.  
More info: www.bpay.com.au

© Registered to BPAY Pty Ltd ABN 69 079 137 518



Billpay Code: 9102  
Ref:

To pay this bill, visit any Post Office or phone 13 18 16.

Cessnock City Council  
PO Box 152  
CESSNOCK 2325

Bill Enquiries  
(02) 4993 4100



\*71 102 00000003376 86



communityplan

Our people, Our place,  
focus on our future

# Existing Special Rate Variation

- Approved by IPART for 2011-12 & 2012-13
- 6.05% for two years
- Yielding approx. \$1.5m p.a.
- Condition of roads improving



# Council's Road Network

- Maintaining roads is community's highest priority
- 1,000 km of road pavement
- Including 100km of regional roads
- Of which 20% are poor, very poor or failed



# Road Pavement Condition

- Measured by Pavement Condition Index (PCI)
- Score out of 10
- Based on structural condition of surface & pavement
- Does not account for narrowness, edge break, unsealed shoulders, no kerb & guttering, etc.







**PCI = 1 Very Poor**



**PCI = 5 Fair**



**PCI = 7 Good**



**PCI = 10 - Excellent**

# Road Pavement Condition

PCI	Condition	% Total Sealed Road Network 2009-10	% Total Sealed Road Network 2012-13	% Regional Road Network 2009-10	% Regional Road Network 2012-13
8.5 to 10	Excellent	54%	53%	39%	39%
7 to 8.5	Very Good	25%	28%	24%	27%
5.5 to 7	Good	9%	9%	9%	8%
4 to 5.5	Fair	4%	4%	3%	6%
2.5 to 4	Poor	2%	2%	2%	7%
1 to 2.5	Very Poor	2%	2%	6%	3%
<1	Failed	4%	2%	17%	10%

# Road Pavement Condition

PCI	Condition	% Total Sealed Road Network 2009-10	% Total Sealed Road Network 2012-13	% Regional Road Network 2009-10	% Regional Road Network 2012-13
8.5 to 10	Excellent	54%	53%	39%	39%
7 to 8.5	Very Good	25%	28%	24%	27%
5.5 to 7	Good	9%	9%	9%	8%
4 to 5.5	Fair	4%	4%	3%	6%
2.5 to 4	Poor	2%	2%	2%	7%
1 to 2.5	Very Poor	2%	2%	6%	3%
<1	Failed	4%	2%	17%	10%





# Cost of Road Asset Renewal

	Reseal Treatment	Reseal with Heavy Patching	Rehabilitation (Reconstruction)
Typical 1km Urban Road	\$60,000	\$150,000	Up to \$1,500,000
Typical 1km Rural Road	\$50,000	\$130,000	Up to \$1,200,000
Typical 1km Regional Road	\$60,000	\$150,000	Up to \$1,350,000

# Works to be undertaken with Special Rate Variation funds

	Reseal Treatment	Reseal with Heavy Patching	Rehabilitation (Reconstruction)
Typical 1km Urban Road	\$60,000	\$150,000	Up to \$1,500,000
Typical 1km Rural Road	\$50,000	\$130,000	Up to \$1,200,000
Typical 1km Regional Road	\$60,000	\$150,000	Up to \$1,350,000

	Reseal Treatment	Reseal with Heavy Patching	Rehabilitation (Reconstruction)
Urban Collector Road	approx 3km	approx 1km	-
Rural Collector Road	approx 2.5km	approx 1km	approx 0.25km
Regional Road	-	approx 4km	-

# Special Rate Variation Options

- Don't apply for an extension to the existing special rate variation and lose \$1.5 million in rate revenue
- Apply for continuation of the existing variation for a further 12 months and retain \$1.5 million per year for continuation of additional road programs



# Special Rate Variation Options:

## Impact on ratepayers

- **Discontinue** the existing special rate levy and increase rates by the legislated rate cap **reducing rates by 2.65% or \$21 per year** for the average ratepayer
- **Continue** the existing special rate levy and **increase rates by** the legislated cap limit of **3.4% or \$33 per year** for the average ratepayer
- N.B. Based on average residential ratepayer of \$972 and does not include service charges e.g. DWM



# Impact on Ratepayers

## Residential Rating Category (approx. 18,900 properties)

Land Value Range	Number of Properties	Average Land Value	Current Year Rates	Next Year - Discontinue	Next Year - Continue
<\$100,000	3,500	\$72,000	\$724	\$715	\$746
\$100,000 - \$150,000	11,800	\$121,000	\$928	\$919	\$971
\$150,000 - \$250,000	3,100	\$178,000	\$1,204	\$1,158	\$1,234



# Special Rate Variation

- Check back with objective:
- *To promote awareness in the community of the need for and impacts of the proposed extension to the existing special rate variation*
- Final questions...



# Special Rate Variation: Where to from here?

- 27 February – Surveys close
- 6 March – Council decides on preferred Special Rate Variation Option
- 11 March – Submit application to IPART for special rate variation
- Mid-June – IPART decision on special rate variation application



# Community Strategic Plan Objective

- To confirm the following components still reflect the aspirations of the community:
  - Vision
  - Desired Outcomes
  - Objectives





# Overview

- Community Strategic Plan is the key planning document for the local government area
- First adopted 2010 following extensive consultation
- New Council required to review
- Will drive Council's 4 year Delivery Program for 2013-17
- Part of the integrated planning & reporting framework



# Integrated Planning & Delivery Framework

Vision



Reality



# Integrated Planning & Delivery Framework

**Vision**

**Community  
Strategic  
Plan**  
*Cessnock 2020*



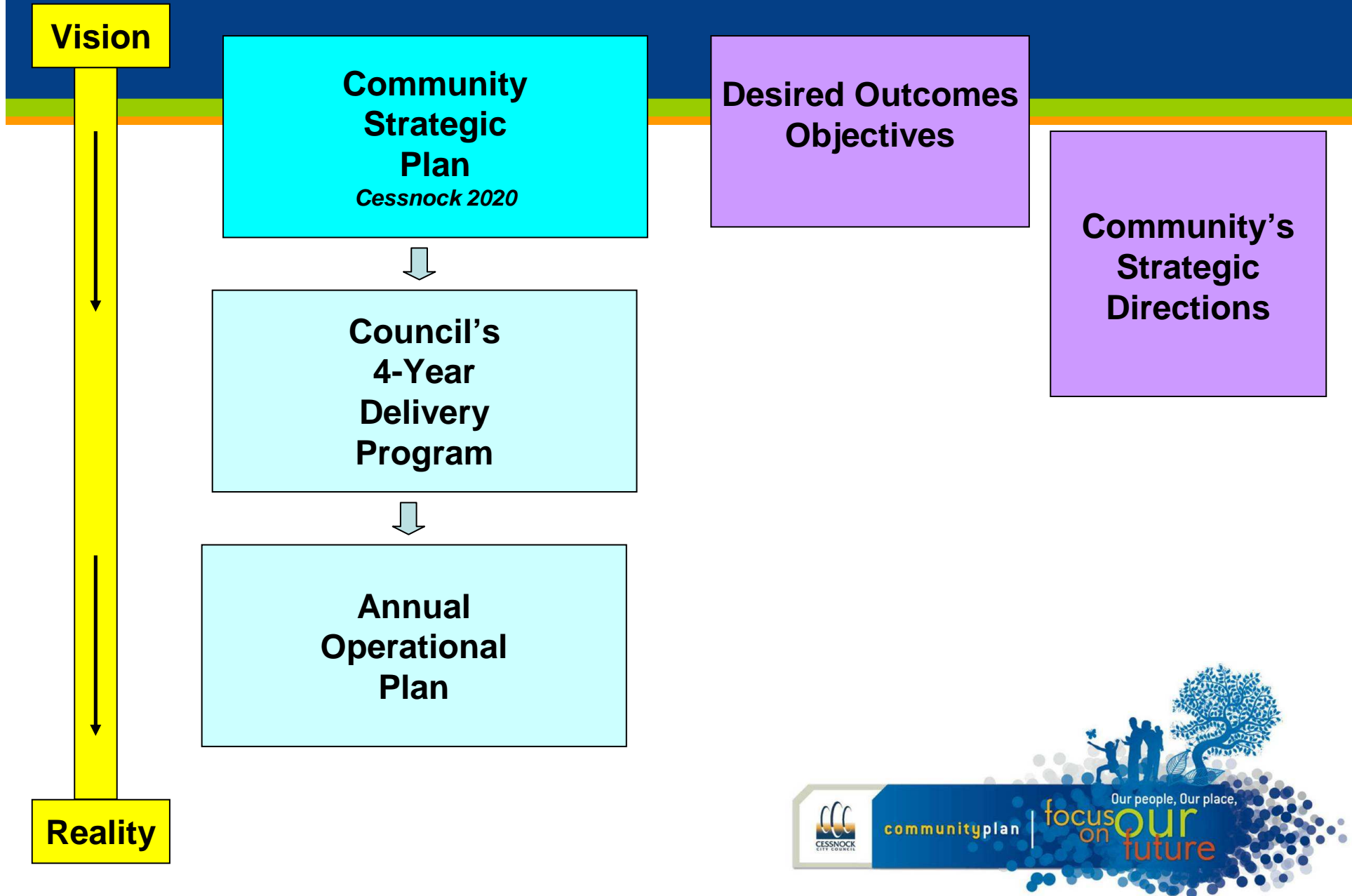
**Reality**



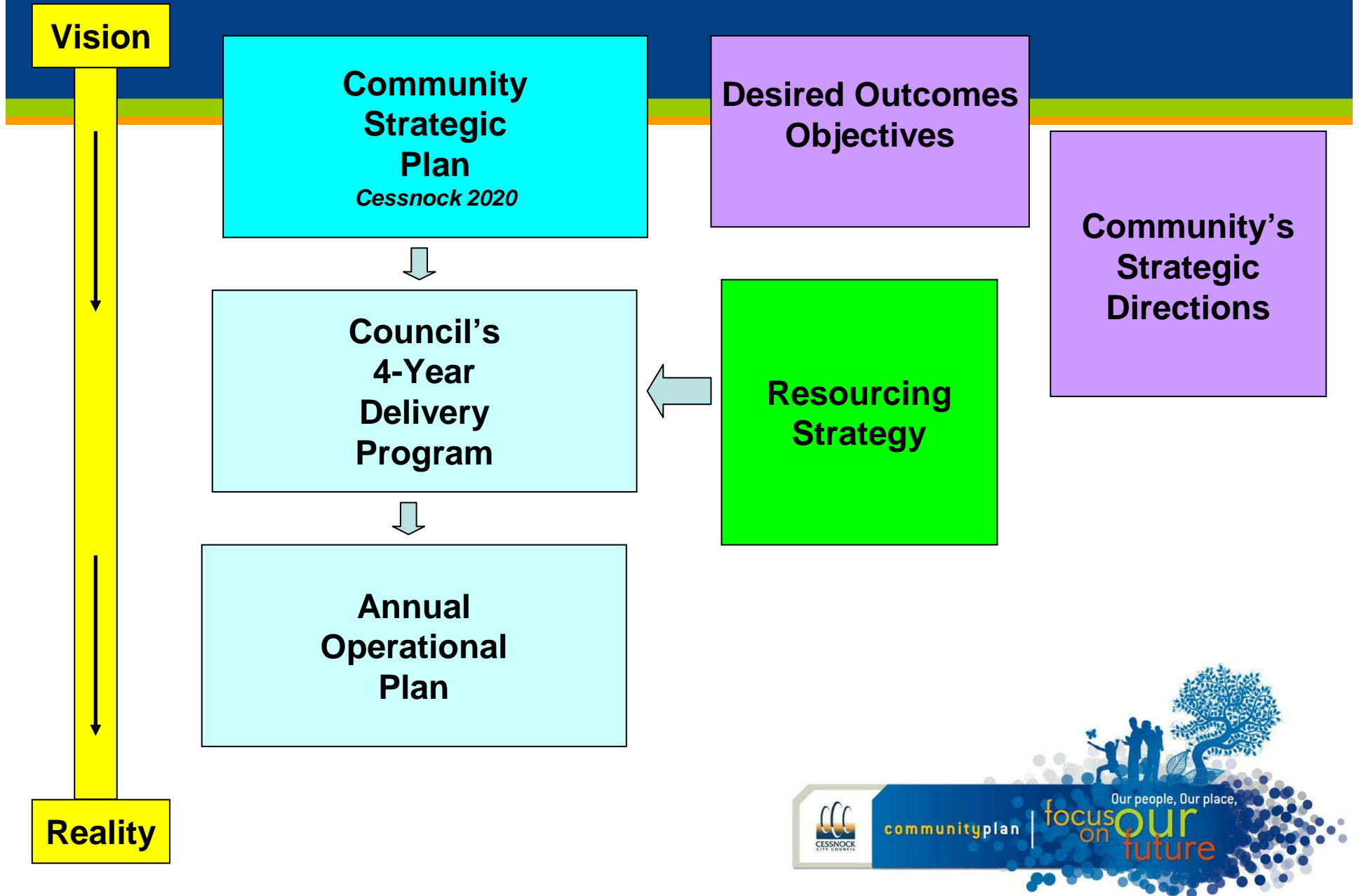
# Integrated Planning & Delivery Framework



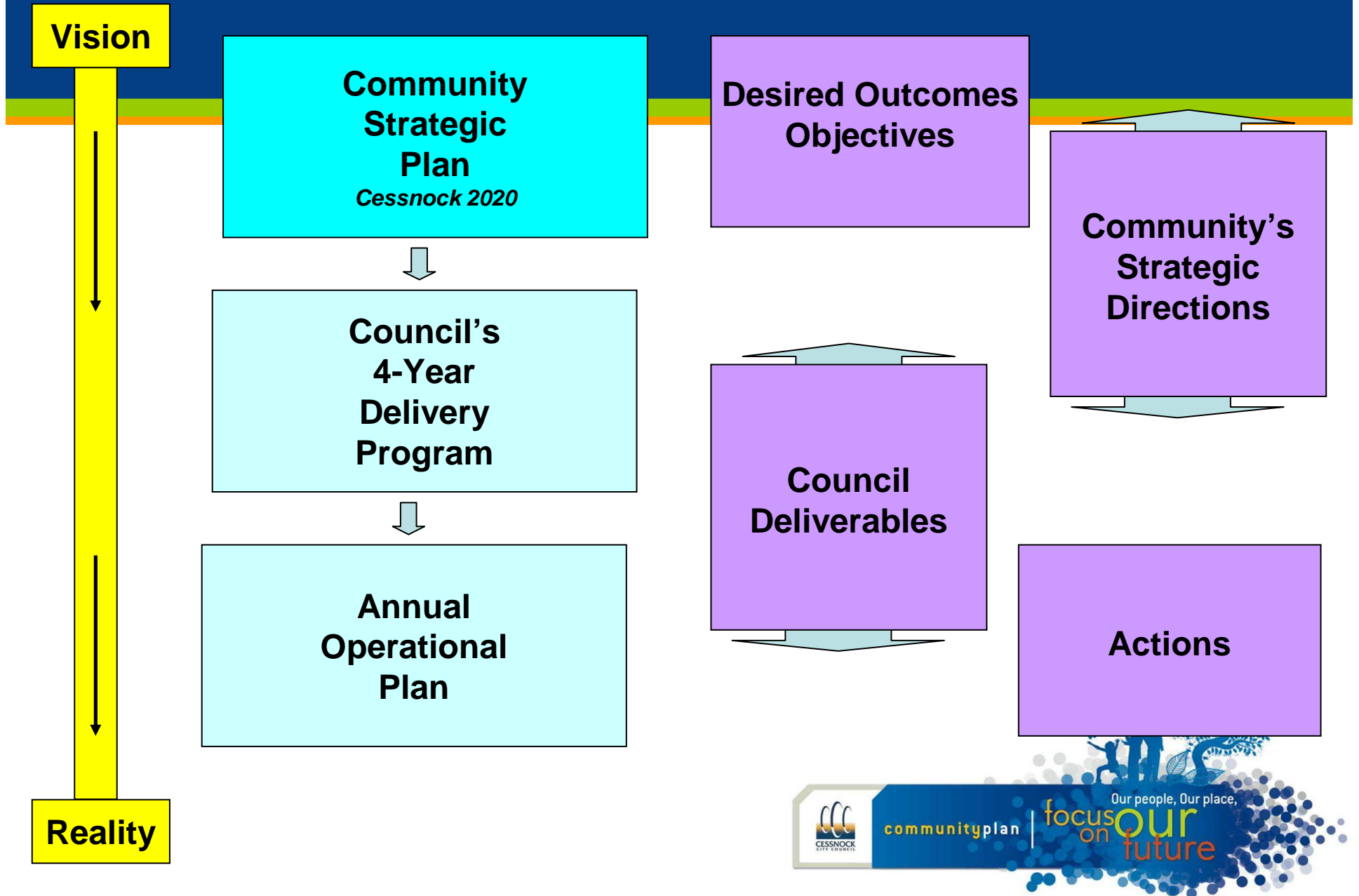
# Integrated Planning & Delivery Framework



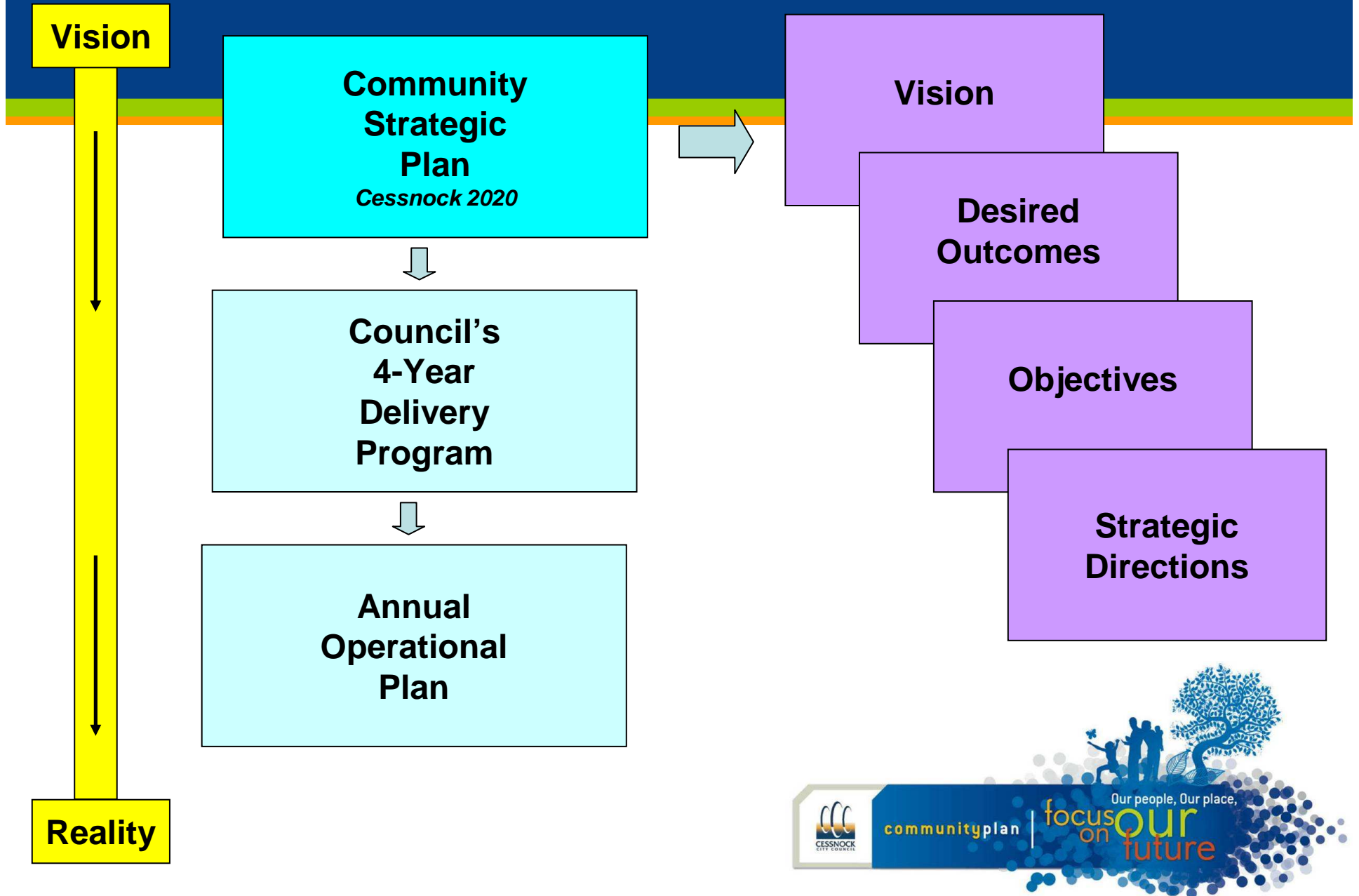
# Integrated Planning & Delivery Framework



# Integrated Planning & Delivery Framework

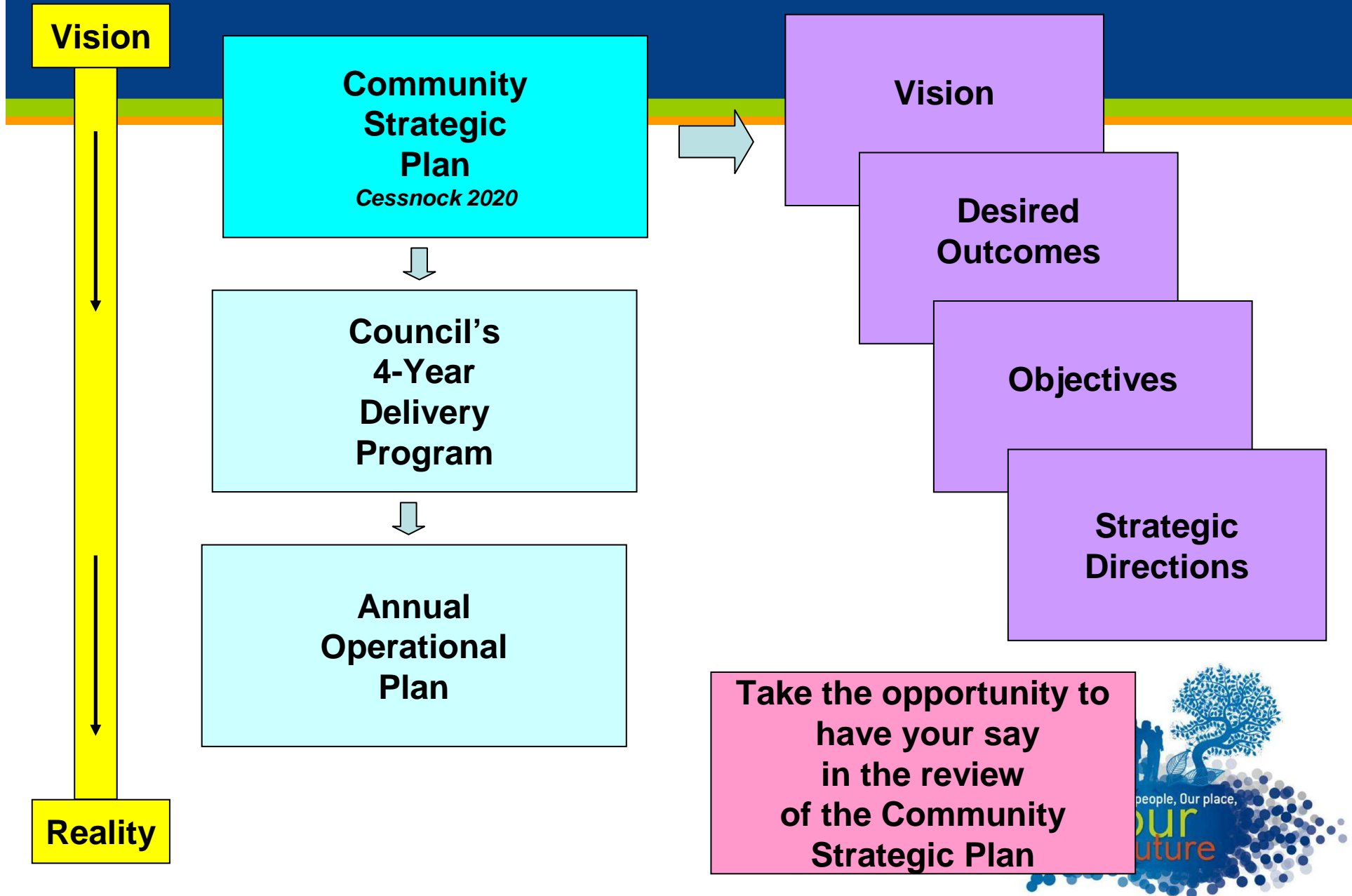


# Integrated Planning & Delivery Framework





# Integrated Planning & Delivery Framework



# Review of Community Strategic Plan

- The second iteration of integrated planning & reporting
- Extensive consultations to develop original Cessnock 2020 document
- Now checking back to confirm vision, desired outcomes and objectives



# Process

- Overview
- Discussion
  - To confirm whether vision/outcome/objective still relevant
  - Suggestions to achieve outcomes/objectives:
  - How do we know if we are moving towards our desired outcome? (suggested measures)



# Vision

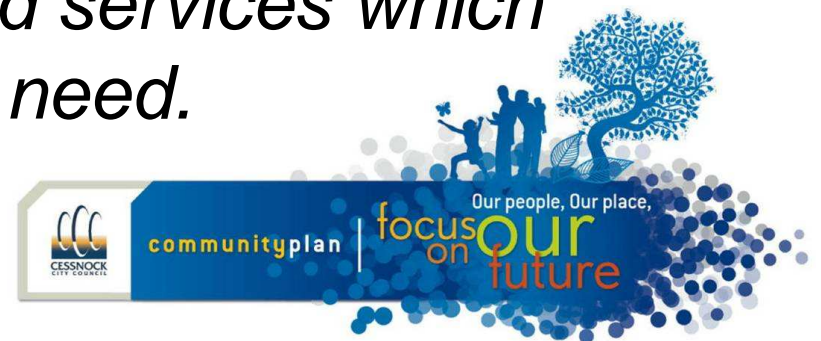
- Cessnock – attractive, thriving, welcoming



# Vision

- Cessnock – attractive, thriving, welcoming

*Cessnock will be a cohesive and welcoming community living in an attractive and sustainable rural environment with a diversity of business and employment opportunities supported by accessible infrastructure and services which effectively meet community need.*



# Desired Outcomes

- Five desired outcomes
  - A connected, safe and creative community
  - A prosperous and sustainable economy
  - A healthy and sustainable environment
  - Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities
  - Civic leadership and effective governance





# *A connected, safe & creative community*





# *A prosperous & sustainable economy*



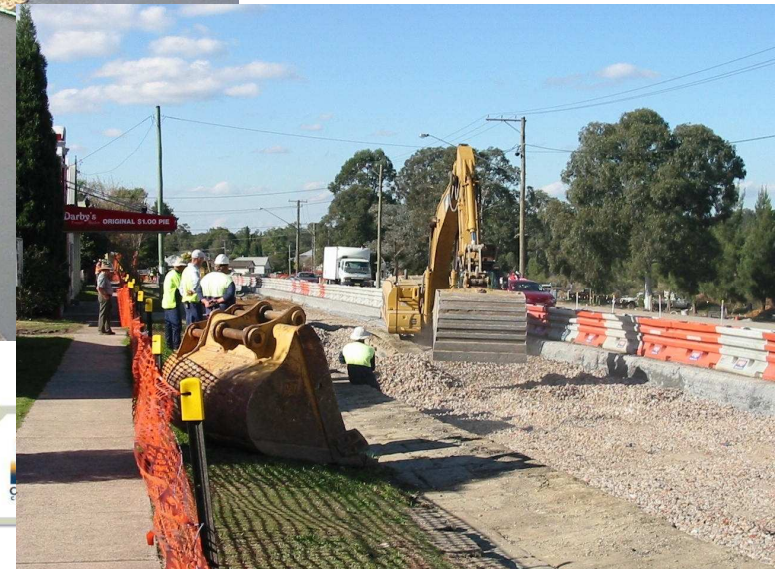


# *A healthy & sustainable environment*





# *Accessible infrastructure, services & facilities*



# *Civic leadership & effective governance*





# Process

- Confirm if vision/outcome/objective still relevant
- Suggestions to achieve outcomes/objectives:
  - With no cost
  - What can community/community groups do?
  - What can business/business organisations do?
  - What can State & Federal Govt do?
  - What can Council do?
- How do we know if we are moving towards our desired outcome? (suggested measures)



# Vision

- Cessnock – attractive, thriving, welcoming

*Cessnock will be a cohesive and welcoming community living in an attractive and sustainable rural environment with a diversity of business and employment opportunities supported by accessible infrastructure and services which effectively meet community need.*



# A connected, safe and creative community

- Promoting social connections
- Strengthening community culture
- Promoting safe communities
- Fostering an articulate and creative community



# A sustainable and prosperous economy

- Diversifying local business options
- Achieving more sustainable employment opportunities
- Increasing tourism opportunities and visitation in the area



# A sustainable and healthy environment

- Protecting and enhancing the natural environment and the rural character of the area
- Better utilisation of existing open space
- Better waste management and recycling





# Accessible Infrastructure, Services & Facilities

- Better transport links
- Improving the road network
- Improving access to health services locally



# Civic Leadership & Effective Governance

- Fostering and supporting community leadership
- Encouraging more community participation in decision making
- Making Council more responsive to the community



# Community Strategic Plan

- Check back with objective:
- *To confirm the following components still reflect the aspirations of the community:*
  - Vision
  - Desired Outcomes
  - Objectives
- Final questions...



# Community Strategic Plan: Where to from here?

- February-March - Community Forums, community engagement
- 17 April – Council to adopt draft plans for public exhibition
- April-May – Public exhibition
- 19 June – Council to adopt Cessnock 2023; Delivery Program, Operational Plan and budget



# Thank you

