



## Community-led planning

Community-led planning is about the community being in the driving seat – setting the vision for their town or village based on their needs and aspirations. Now, more than ever, communities need to be empowered to work together to make and create meaningful change.

### Our community focus

At Locale Consulting we are passionate about helping communities and councils deliver the best for each other. Our team has specialist knowledge, experience and a significant track record in working with communities to communicate and deliver on their vision. We strongly believe in the value of community-led planning to deliver real results.

We work alongside communities to tap into local knowledge and expertise, with the aim to build capacity and resilience and create stronger networks and relationships.

### About us

For over 10 years, Locale Consulting has worked with local councils and communities on community led planning initiatives.

We believe in making our regional areas great places to live and work, both now and for future generations. We do this by working with government and community organisations who need help navigating the complexities of the government and regulatory system.

We are not traditional planners – we use our unique skill sets to work across council functions, demystify the system for communities, understand different levels of government and collaborate with communities to achieve great results.

### Community led plans

Locale Consulting has completed community-led plans in Shoalhaven Heads, Berry and Sanctuary Point. We helped the community to develop a series of strategic priorities. The plans then articulated a united direction for the communities to present their outcomes and to work towards achieving these with Council. The documents included strategies for the town centres, tourism, assets, environment / sustainability and youth and now form the basis for interaction with Council and funding applications.

### Community-led Warden Head Lighthouse Master Plan

Locale Consulting assisted the Ulladulla Lighthouse Group to work collaborative with Council on addressing critical community issues, through stakeholder consultation and design of a master plan for the heritage listed item. The development brought together a community that was highly invested in the future of this sensitive site for both personal and public reasons and Councils vision for the site. We successfully produced a Master Plan that both is attractive while dealing with managing difficult community issues.

### Bay and Basin Community Strategic Plan

Locale Consulting is currently undertaking community-led planning for the Bay & Basin area and its communities in the Shoalhaven. This process intends to bring together the identified priorities for a series of individual villages and to consolidate these as a single community led planning process to benefit the broader Bay & Basin community as a whole. The process incorporates previous consultation work and planning with informed consultation.



**\$27 MILLION+**

GRANT FUNDING



**500+**

COMPLETED  
PROJECTS

## Our process

While our process may seem deceptively simple, our extensive local government, planning and community engagement experience means we can take communities and their ideas to the next level where action is possible.

Our process is:



A core strength is our community engagement expertise, with three staff holding formal qualifications from the International Association for Public Participation Australasia (IAP2). Combined with our mix of technical, practical and theoretical skills, this ensures we approach community-led planning with a unique depth of knowledge and the ability to meet the community at their level, with what they need.

## Our approach

We know that different communities will be at different stages in the planning and implementation process. Some will be well advanced in their engagement and planning, while others only just beginning the conversation. Where there are no local community champions in place, this may not have started at all, with the blame game often being played.

With this in mind, we approach our community-led plans in a deliberate way.

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| <b>We don't start from scratch</b>         | Doing our homework upfront and building on that previous effort allows us to help well progressed communities get over the line efficiently, and those starting out, to know their conversations with us are open and honest.           |
| <b>We talk to the community</b>            | Our team are adaptable and experienced community engagement professionals and planners. Our conversations with the community are designed to bring people together and to identify achievable solutions that can be put into practice.  |
| <b>A plan that works with 'the system'</b> | We know local government and how to make sure our work aligns with that system. We can consider and assist communities to understand existing plans, processes, and procedures so that outcomes work for both communities and councils. |



## Our team

Our team is committed to improving the outcomes for our regional communities and together bring a complementary skill set that covers strategic planning, community engagement, grant writing, mediation, community building and project delivery.



**Steve Thompson**  
**Director Planning & Strategy**

For more than 20 years, Steve has worked across many areas of strategic and development planning, grant writing and project implementation. He holds formal qualifications in planning, government administration and public consultation. Through his experience, Steve has a diverse understanding of government, planning and communities – three areas which he combines to assist his clients in the timely delivery of projects.



**Emma Broomfield**  
**Director - Governance & Mediation**

Emma is a nationally accredited mediator and trained lawyer with 20 years experience in the local government and community sector. Her passion is helping others solve problems and work together for the benefit of their community. Emma is a facilitator, trainer and avid community volunteer in her local community, as well as a Director of a local disability service provider. She is known for her empathic approach, practical focus and industry knowledge.



**Cinnamon Dunsford**  
**Principal Planner**

Cinnamon is a Registered Planner and experienced community engagement practitioner with 20 years' experience in the local government sector. She has a range of strategic, coastal, rural, environmental and economic planning experience. Cinnamon holds the leading qualifications in community engagement from IAP2 and is known for her fantastic facilitation and communication skills.

## Contact us

To discuss how we can assist your community and Council to plan for the future, please contact:

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