

The Knox Planning Scheme Review

The Knox Planning Scheme Review is an important review process that enhances the effectiveness and efficiency of the local planning framework. The review ensures that the Planning Scheme meets the objectives of planning in Victoria and aligns with the vision set out in the Knox Community and Council Plan 2021-2025.

What is the Knox Planning Scheme?

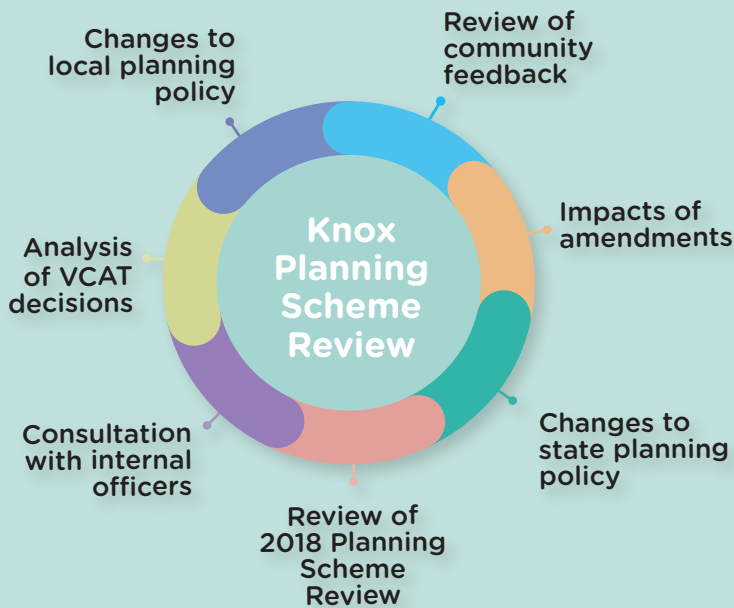
- 1** It is a mechanism to help Council achieve its vision relating to land use and development.
- 2** It sets out objectives and rules regarding the protection and conservation of land.
- 3** It informs, guides and regulates land use and development within the Knox municipality.
- 4** It informs how people can develop their land and what restrictions apply.

Why does it need to be reviewed?

Every four years, there is a legislative requirement to review the Knox Planning Scheme. The last review was undertaken in 2018 and since then, there has been a range of new state, regional and local planning policies introduced. As well as being required by the Planning and Environment Act 1987, this review is an opportunity for Council to evaluate the planning scheme against any recent changes and any identified local issues or emerging trends.

To find out more about the review, visit: knox.vic.gov.au/planning-scheme-review

What the review has considered



What are the findings of the review?

The Knox Planning Scheme has gone through significant changes since the last Planning Scheme Review in 2018.

The Review makes 37 recommendations for updates and improvements to the Knox Planning Scheme, categorised into level of priority and timeframe.

Some of the key recommendations from the Review include:

- Reviewing the Knox Housing Strategy, which can potentially address the identified issues and improvements regarding residential zoning and built form, as well as matters in relation to neighbourhood character;
- Incorporating the Boronia Renewal Strategy into the Knox Planning Scheme as well as continuing the preparation of the Bayswater Renewal Strategy to align with the objectives of Plan Melbourne 2017 - 2050;
- Implementing of recently adopted policies and strategies such as the Knox Social and Affordable Housing Strategy; and
- Continuing to restructure the local policy framework to address issues identified in the review.

For the full list of recommendations and to read the Planning Scheme Review Report, please visit:

knox.vic.gov.au/planning-scheme-review

Issues and opportunities of the review

The Knox Planning Scheme Review has considered a range of existing, new and emerging planning issues and opportunities:



Accessible design

Increasing importance of incorporating accessible design in buildings and spaces.



Advertising signs

Ensuring that advertising signs do not adversely impact the surrounding environment.



Building heights

Ensuring consistent and context-specific building heights.



Bush Boulevards

Ensuring consistent protection and application of 'Bush Boulevards' in different land uses.



Bushfire

Balancing between vegetation protection and bushfire risk.



Land for business

Review the effectiveness of the Strategy in protecting industrial land.



Landscaping

Working towards better landscaping outcomes in new developments.



Private open space

Accommodating trees and vegetation to be part of private residential spaces.



Residential development

Balancing between accommodating residential growth whilst protecting the natural and built environments.



Tree canopy coverage

Ensuring the retention of canopy trees in the public and private realm.

