

Direction 1: Planning for our future

Resilient land use planning reduces the impact of natural hazards on our community and enables access to a broad range of housing, employment, education, and transport options that support individual and community needs.

Areas of our community are highly exposed to a range of natural hazards with over 19,000 properties classified as bush fire prone, 22,000 flood prone, 63,000 properties at being of moderate to high-risk landslip potential, 270 properties affected by coastal erosion, and a further 4,400 associated with estuarine inundation. Some communities are geographically isolated and/or possess evacuation constraints that compound the risks to those communities.

It is critical that land use planning limits intensification of development in areas that pose a threat to the health and wellbeing of our community. Given our community's passion about our environment, these values must not be compromised in order to achieve risk mitigation measures for new development, and where possible environmental condition enhanced.

Population diversity is essential to the socio-economic resilience of any community. From an LGA level and strategic planning perspective, service group diversity is essential to the best use of assets and infrastructure, ensuring a relatively stable and equal distribution of aged groups are continuously catered for instead of needing divestments/ reinvestments in different types of social infrastructure if the demographic profile changes over time. For example in the case of a non-diverse population, there would be a need to divest from aged care to reinvest in social services to support a change in demographics over time to young families.

Professional diversity is similarly critical to our local economy and community by ensuring a multiskilled and essential workforce is able to access affordable housing options. Similarly, young people and young families are increasingly priced out of the area. Affordable housing - and greater housing choice that can cater for our ageing population - is of central importance to our individual resilience and personal wellbeing.

On an LGA level, affordable housing and broad employment, education and transport options all contribute to our ability to attract and retain a diverse population, which is of fundamental importance to our collective capacity to withstand, adapt and thrive into the future.

**Be mindful of growth and
our ability to cope with it
(environment and lifestyle)**

(SRG Workshop participant)

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Key Priorities

Key Actions

1. Avoid intensification of development, inappropriate development and incompatible land uses in areas exposed to natural and urban hazards	1a. Establish planning controls that limit intensification, inappropriate development and incompatible land uses to reduce or avoid risks from natural hazards (S-M)
2. Carefully manage population growth without compromising our local environment, wellbeing and lifestyle of our community	2a. Establish planning controls that limit impact on our local environment and the wellbeing and lifestyle of our community (S)
3. Integrate resilience principles into land use planning processes	3a. Establish resilience assessment processes with Council's planning and development application frameworks (S)
4. Develop a mature understanding of climate change risks and its influence on strategic land use planning	4a. Undertake a Climate Change Risk Assessment to inform planning controls with a focus on bush fire, flood, urban heat, coastal erosion and inundation (S-M)
5. Improve disaster recovery provisions within the planning process	5a. Implement "build back better" provisions into the local planning framework to reduce future risk and improve community recovery (S)
6. Increase the resilience of infrastructure to support current and future communities	6a. Engage with infrastructure providers to ensure critical infrastructure on the Northern Beaches achieves the objectives of the NSW Critical Infrastructure Resilience Strategy (S-L)
7. Improve social and affordable housing options particularly for very low to moderate income earners and essential workers	7a. Deliver the Housing Strategy that establishes mechanisms to increase affordable housing options to support our low to moderate income earners and essential workers (M-L)
8. Improve transport accessibility & diversity within, and out of the Northern Beaches	8a. Advocate for improved transport accessibility & diversity in and out of the Northern Beaches area (M-L)

Links to Existing Plans and Strategies

