



# Planning in a Changing Climate

Audrey Marsh | Planning Institute of Australia

# Acknowledgement of Country



## We know that planning has a role in:

- Creating planning strategy considers the range of climate mitigation and adaption requirements.
- Implementing carbon performance rating schemes and other development incentives.
- Incorporating urban design and infrastructure planning measures which support low carbon precincts.
- Embedding net zero emissions and adaptation into infrastructure assessment.
- Creating development assessment processes that consider climate change.
- Planning and retrofitting communities to provide the greatest capacity to integrate renewable energy.

***... and much more!***

URBAN DESIGN

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT  
AND PRIORITISATION

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT

LEGISLATION

DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

LAND USE STRATEGIES

SOCIAL PLANNING

**THE PLANNING SYSTEM**

BIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION

TRANSPORT PLANNING

PLANTECH

URBAN GOVERNANCE

REGIONAL PLANNING

ECONOMIC  
ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT

BUILDING  
PERFORMANCE



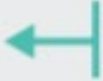
# UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

GLOBAL



NATIONAL

?



NATIONAL SETTLEMENT STRATEGY

STATE PLANNING POLICIES



STATE

REGIONAL PLANS



REGIONAL



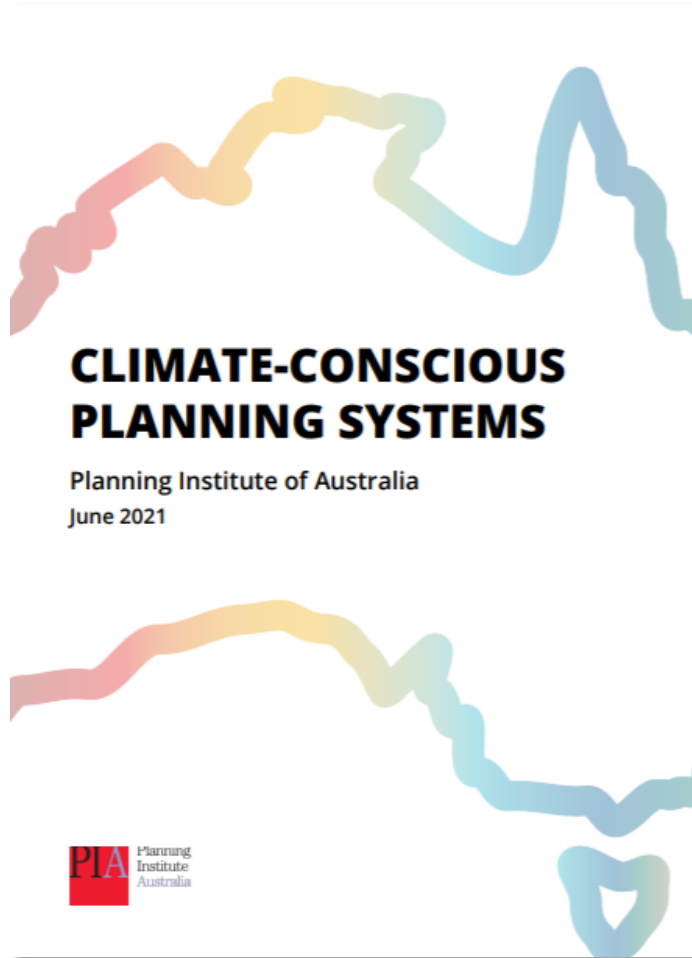
LOCAL

LOCAL PLANS



SITE

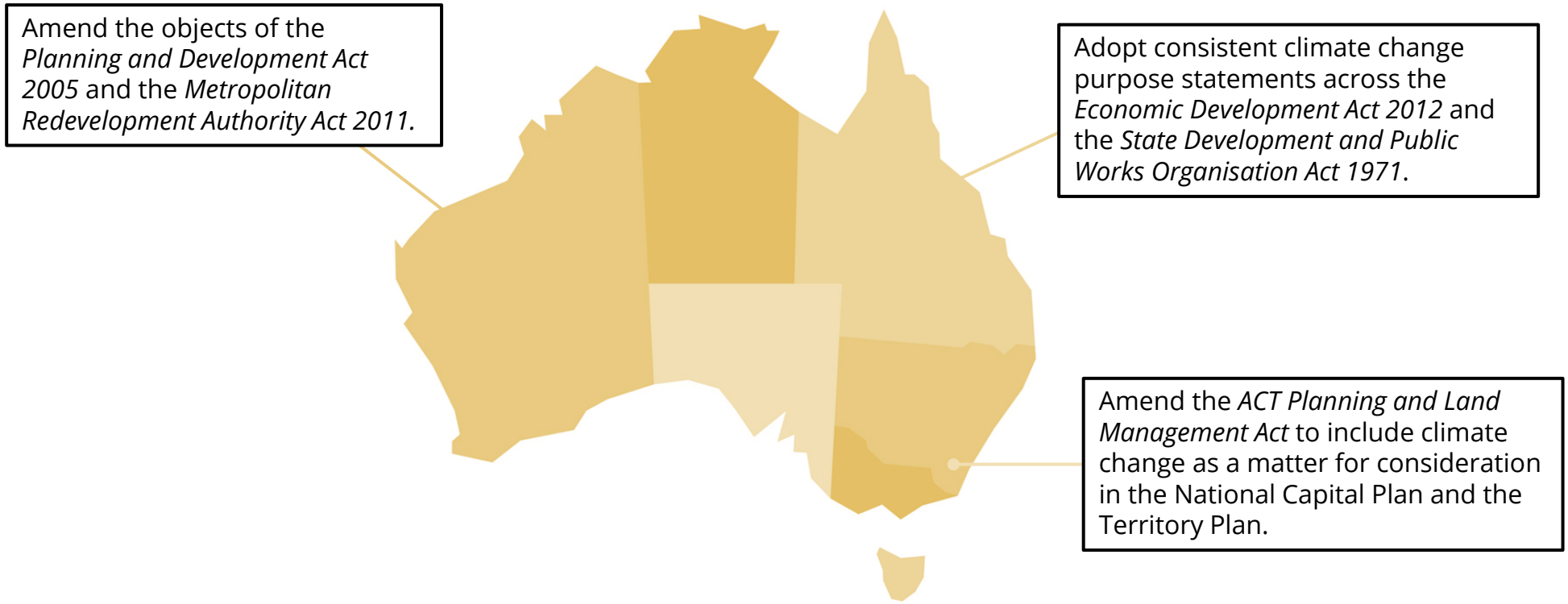




Planners shouldn't have to go it alone to make climate-conscious planning decisions or set climate-conscious planning strategy.

① Legislated climate change goal in the Planning Act

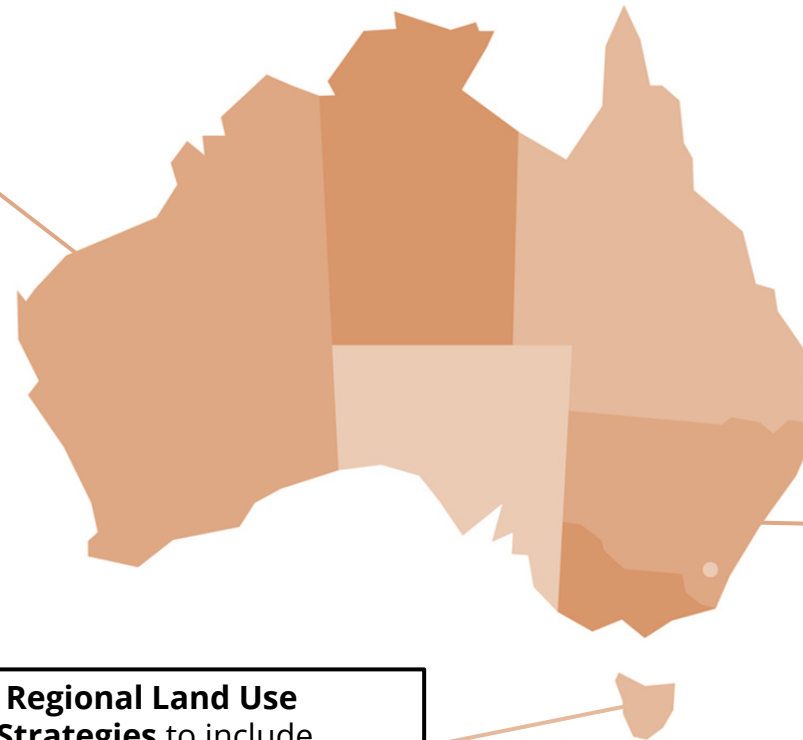
*To give authority to climate action through the planning system.*



② Strategic planning guidance relevant to climate change

*To ensure that land use strategies reduce carbon and improve adaptation to a changing climate*

Amend **State Planning Strategy 2050** and **State Planning Policy 2 Environment and Natural Resources** to reflect zero net carbon and include carbon reduction in all development as an aspirational strategy.



Prepare strategic planning guidelines (with consistent timeframes, assumptions and data sets) to inform **Local Strategic Planning Statements, Regional Plans and District Plans**.

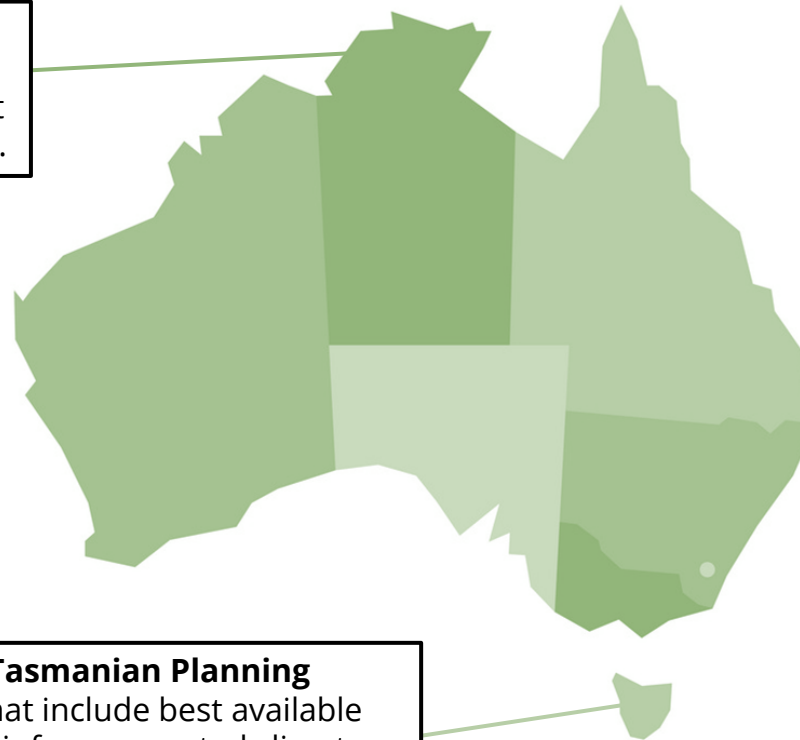
Amend all **Regional Land Use Planning Strategies** to include responding to climate change as a key objective.



3 Clarity in assessment and conditions for buildings, infrastructure and other development regarding carbon mitigation and adaptation

*To ensure development assessment criteria and conditions generate low carbon and resilient buildings and projects.*

Develop **new guidelines to support sustainable development** suitable for tropical and arid environments at both a subdivision and building level.

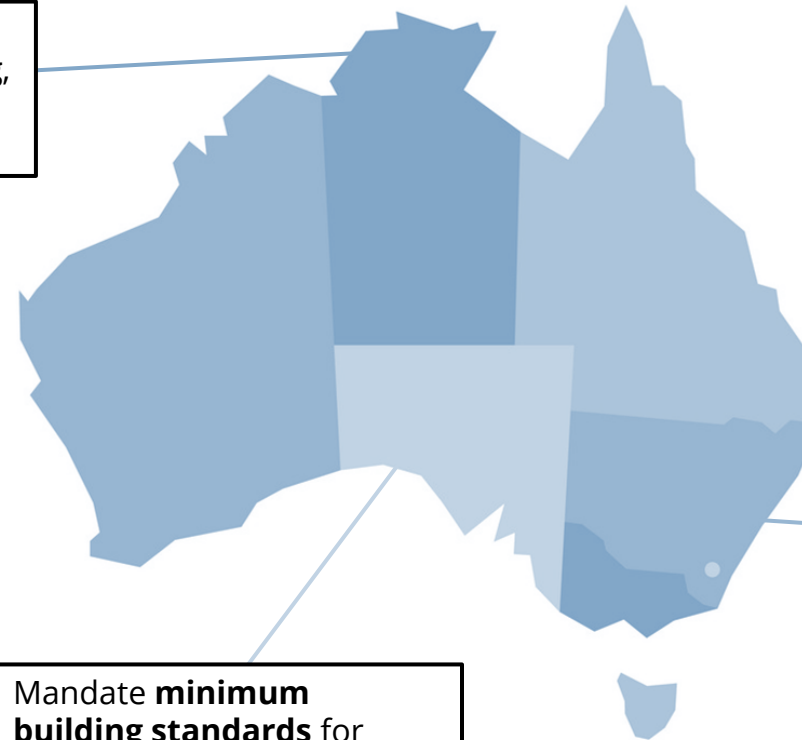


Include clear and measurable climate assessment requirements for new state and local government infrastructure in the proposed **State Infrastructure Strategy** and ensure these requirements are reflected in the **Project Assessment Framework**.

Establish **Tasmanian Planning Policies** that include best available science to inform expected climate impacts (e.g. regional downscaled projections for disasters).

- ④ Building performance indicators for carbon as a requirement for all buildings  
*To measure and achieve improved carbon and greenhouse gas (GHG) performance in buildings.*

Incorporate green building design into **new public and social housing**, including the use of passive cooling approaches in remote locations.



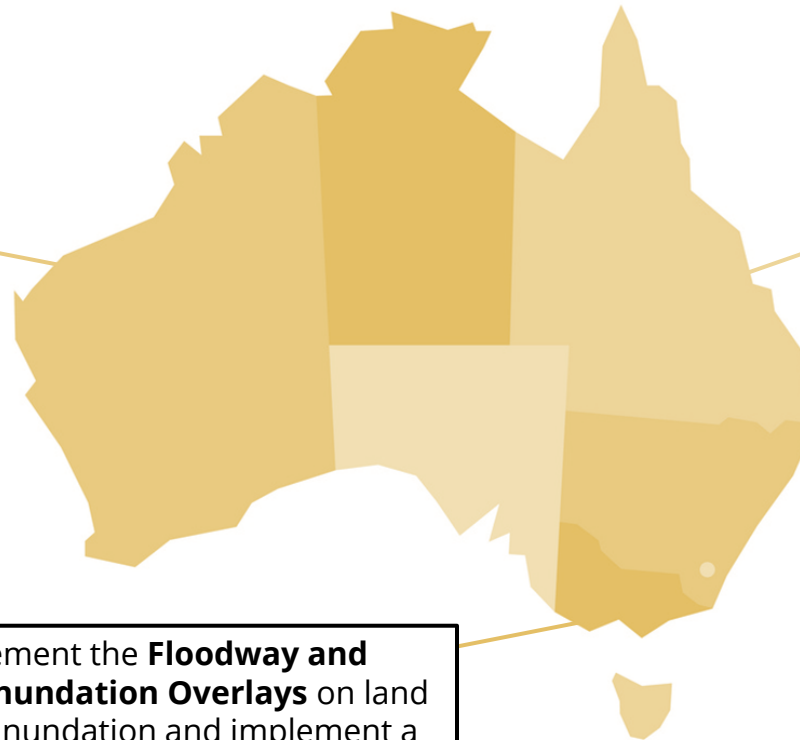
Ensure **BASIX, NatHERS or any other relevant performance metrics** are based on future climate projections (e.g. 2050 or 2070).

Mandate **minimum building standards** for energy rating of buildings.

5 Landscape scale hazard guidance supported by strong digital tools

*To provide the tools to manage natural hazards at the right scale – not just property by property.*

Amend **State Planning Policy 3.4 Natural Hazards and Disasters** to require higher order strategic planning to consider hazards and disasters exacerbated by climate change and to make hazard mapping available on the PlanWA mapping dataset.



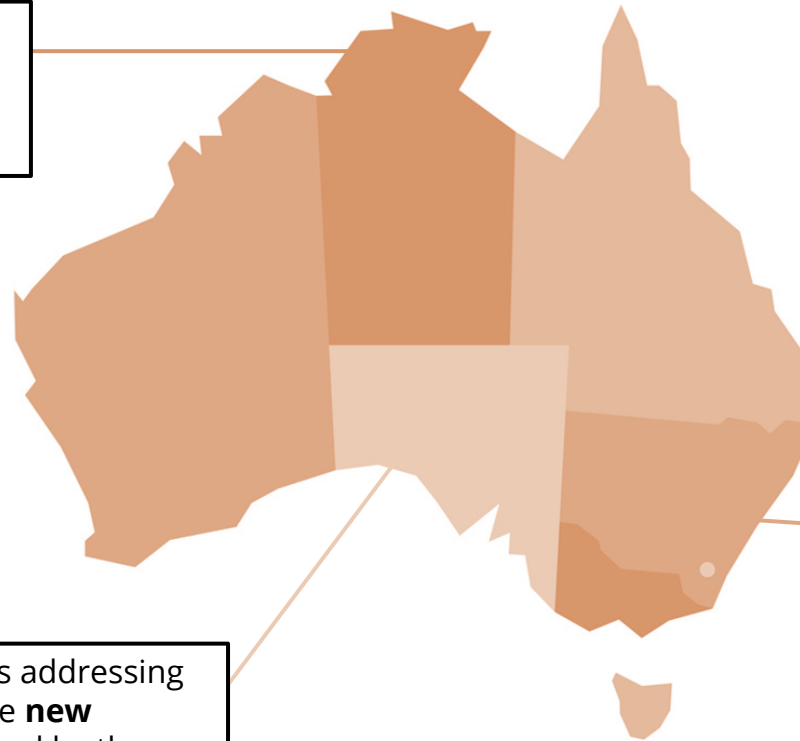
Update the **State Planning Policy to incorporate heat** (including heat wave and heat island) as a state interest for natural hazards, including guidance mapping, policies and assessment benchmarks.

Immediately implement the **Floodway and Land Subject to Inundation Overlays** on land subject to coastal inundation and implement a digital system for relevant mapping.

6 Resilience strategies at regional level

*To address multiple hazards, make the trade-offs for resilient settlements and adopt adaptive management measures.*

Deliver a **NT Resilience Strategy** and ensure it is included as reference material into the NT Planning Scheme.



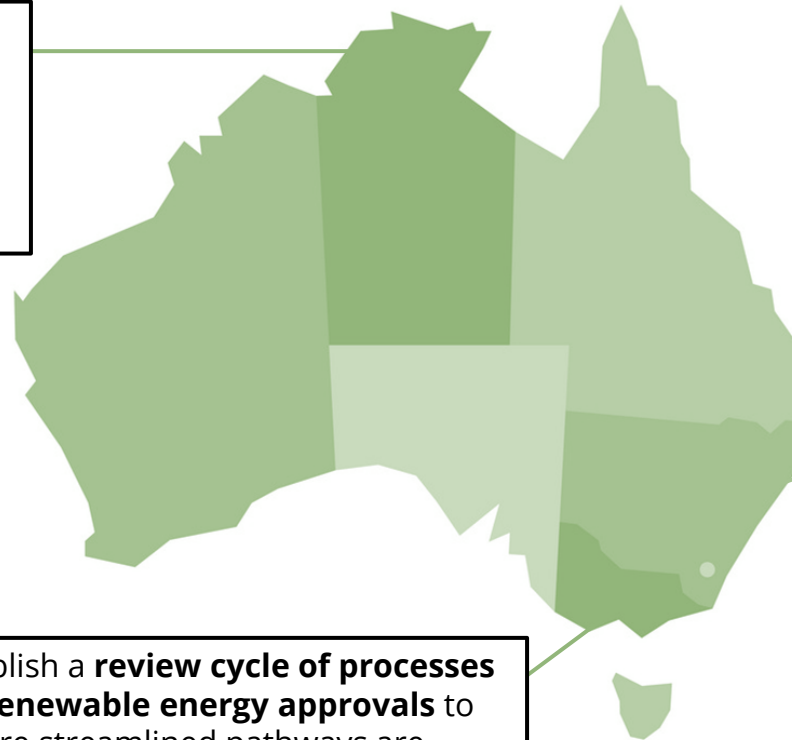
Seek for resilience strategies addressing hazards to be updated in the **new regional plans** to be prepared by the State Planning Commission.

Require that **Regional, District and Local Plans** include integrated and funded climate resilience strategies prior to assurance by the NSW Government.

7 Streamlined pathways for renewable energy and carbon offsets

*To enable rapid decarbonisation of the grid, emission reductions and opportunities for carbon offsets.*

Task the new **Territory Investment Commissioner and Major Projects Commissioner** with streamlining pathways for renewable energy and other low or zero carbon developments



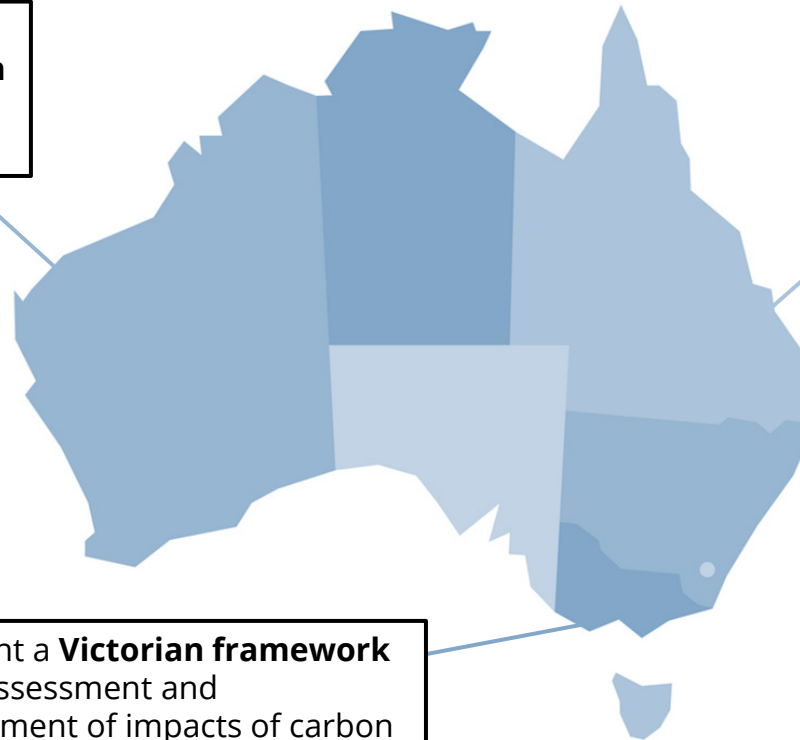
Delete item **2(c) within Schedule 4** that requires an EIS for development proposals involving generation of electricity from renewable sources.

Establish a **review cycle of processes for renewable energy approvals** to ensure streamlined pathways are continually updated to reflect changes in technology and practice.

8 Carbon budgets at the precinct level

*To be accountable through metrics for carbon savings at a precinct level - through shared facilities, urban design and building performance.*

Update the **Guidelines for State Planning Policy 7.2 Precinct Design** to include metrics on achieving carbon savings in precinct plans.

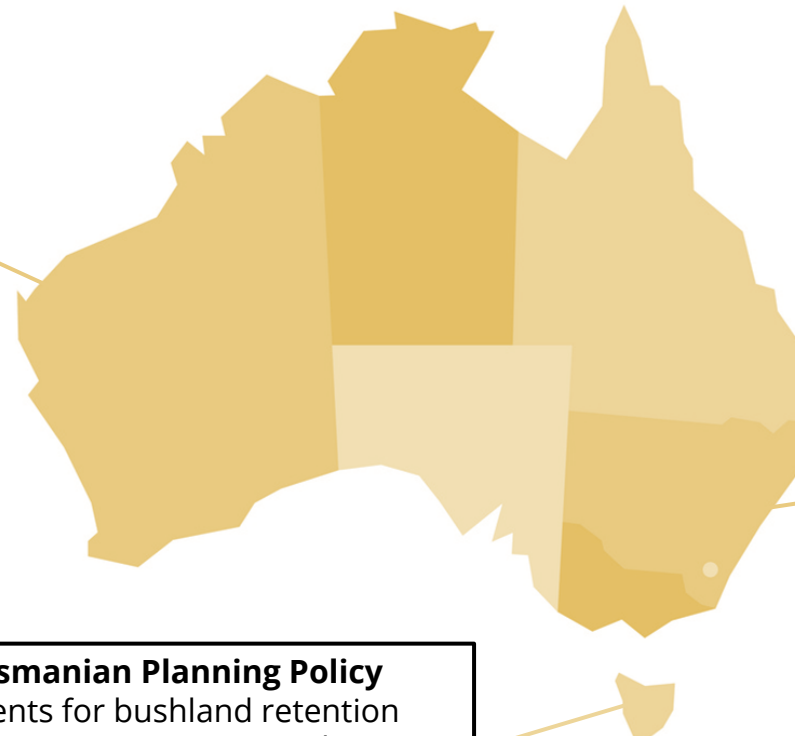


Partner with the private sector to **pilot a low carbon or zero carbon precinct** to demonstrate the potential to achieve precinct scale carbon reduction.

Document a **Victorian framework** for the assessment and measurement of impacts of carbon emissions in the built environment.

- 9 Planning controls which promote urban vegetation and the retention of bushland  
*To retain and promote vegetation to address urban heat, build biodiversity and improve wellbeing.*

Modify the deemed provisions in **Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015** to introduce consistent provisions clarifying when approval is required to remove or prune trees.



To increase vegetation cover, develop **SEPP guidance and Standard Instrument LEP** clause for deep soil zones, model **DCP chapter** for tree canopy and vegetating structures and amend the **Apartment Design Guide, Greenfield Development Code and Low Rise Medium Density Housing Code**.

Create **Tasmanian Planning Policy** requirements for bushland retention and urban vegetation cover, with corresponding recognition in Regional Land Use Planning Strategies.

10 Urban design which promotes accessibility, walkability and sustainable built form outcomes

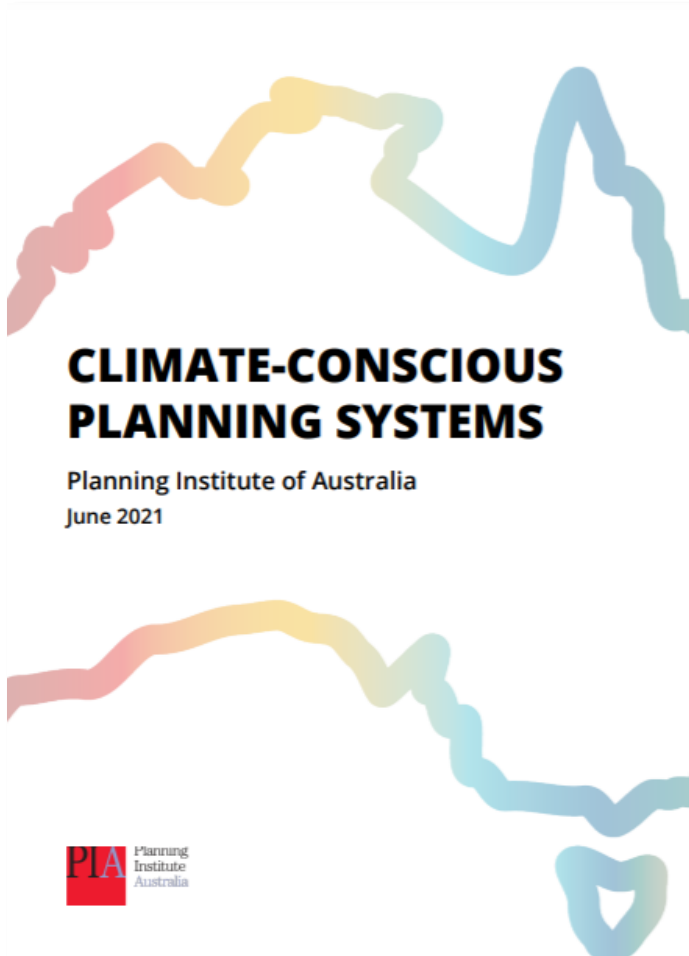
*To ensure the master planning and infrastructure strategies promote wellbeing, resilience and carbon savings.*

Support the preparation of a neighbourhood design policy to update and replace **Liveable Neighbourhoods**.

Establish a **Walkable Communities Fund** to invest in projects that retrofit climate responsive urban design via more walkable and accessible neighbourhoods, including footpaths and tree-planting.

Following the pilot phase, adapt and embed all relevant aspects of the **Sustainable Subdivision Framework** developed by CASBE into the updated Precinct Structure Plan Guidelines, as well as Clause 56.





We want every state and territory planning system to leverage the many tools of the planning system to drive climate action.