Culture of Planning
The NSW Journey so Far
“Planning is a vehicle which cannot be fixed by only looking at the engine. You need to change the way the machine is driven”.

Culture Change and Planning, Literature Review; Spatial plans in Practice: Supporting the Reform of Local Planning, Communities and Local Government, London 2006
Why is it important?

- A cultural shift in planning is required to set a framework to enable a new act to be most effectively and efficiently implemented.

- Nine ways to positively change the culture of planning:
  1. Positive Attitude to Change
  2. Strategic and Evidence Based Planning by Planners
  3. Recognition of the Bigger Picture
  4. Courageous Leaders and Champions
  5. Developing Smart Planners
  6. Supporting Community Engagement
  7. Planners as Professionals and Decision Makers
  8. Aligning the Culture of Planning and the Act
  9. Positive Media
The NSW Government is proposing organisational reform to resource strategic planning and to improve the culture of the planning profession at all levels.

It is recognised that there needs to be a strengthening in the culture of the planning profession.

To be truly effective, the Planning Institute of Australia (IPA) believes the review should be broader than the imposition of new planning Act. While a new set of procedures and models of change, a review of the NSW Planning System should also assess the 'state of planning—do the culture—and how could it be improved.'

— Planning Institute of Australia