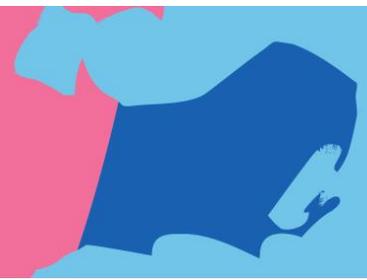


BELLARINE PENINSULA

— Distinctive Area and Landscapes Project



Declaration

Protecting the attractive environment, landscape and lifestyle of the Bellarine Peninsula.

Declaring the Bellarine Peninsula as Distinctive Area and Landscape is the first step in delivering permanent protections to safeguard the precious coastlines from overdevelopment and urban sprawl.

The Bellarine Peninsula is renowned for its attractive rural hinterland, boutique wineries, artisan producers, coastal and historic towns and excellent beaches. It is one of Victoria's prized tourism destinations.

Due to the attractive and relaxed lifestyle destination, some areas have been under increasing development pressure and visitor activity.

To ensure the region's long-term sustainability, the declaration ensures greater protection of the unique features and characteristics of the Bellarine Peninsula, while providing certainty for the preferred places for growth.

That's why the Bellarine Peninsula has now been declared a distinctive area and landscape.

The Declared Area



See full map at

engage.vic.gov.au/distinctive-areas-and-landscapes-program/

Timeline



BELLARINE PENINSULA

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Public Engagement

Public engagement ran between 14 May 2019 to 15 July 2019.

Feedback was sought on:

- ✓ What is most valued about the Bellarine Peninsula?
- ✓ What threats there are to these values?
- ✓ Ways to better protect what is valued?
- ✓ The vision for the future of the Bellarine Peninsula?

Snapshot of community participation

8	Community open houses
207	Participants at open houses
196	Online and written submissions
292	Mapped comments
2700	Visitors online

Where to from here...

Now that the Bellarine Peninsula has been declared, a [Statement of Planning Policy](#) will be prepared in collaboration with the Borough of Queenscliffe, City of Greater Geelong and the Wadawurrung People, and with input from local communities and other key stakeholders.

The policy statement will guide the future use and development of land in the declared area, making sure the distinctive attributes of the declared area are protected and enhanced for the benefit of current and future generations.

It will include a vision statement for the next 50 years, strategies for achieving the vision and an integrated strategic framework plan to guide the future land use and development of the region, including specifying long-term settlement boundaries for townships.

Feedback



Significant habitats, Aboriginal heritage, township character and green breaks between settlements, agriculture, natural landscapes and scenic views were the most highly valued attributes.



Outward urban expansion, overdevelopment and associated infrastructure development were the major threats to these attributes.



Ocean Grove, Portarlington and Barwon Heads were the most frequently mapped locations.



Limiting development, better planning mechanisms, stronger height controls and education were frequently cited as important ways to protect the Bellarine Peninsula.



Participants' 50-year vision for the Bellarine Peninsula was one of protection and improvement of coastal areas, rural activities, township character and the environment.



Significant scenic views include the Heads and Points Nepean, uninterrupted vistas of Port Phillips Bay, Lake Connemara, Swan Bay, You Yangs and the rural hinterland.

More information

There will be more opportunities to 'have your say' about the Bellarine Peninsula protections in the coming months.

Read the Public Engagement Findings Report, at: engage.vic.gov.au/distinctive-areas-and-landscapes-program/bellarine-peninsula