The outcomes of EbD Workshops form the basis for the development of a Concept Plan over the local area. Concept Plans cover and build upon all elements addressed in the workshop. Concept Plans are publicly displayed and feedback from the wider community is sought. Concept Plans and feedback received during community consultation form the basis of the eventual changes to the planning scheme. See also council's 'A Guide to Local Area Planning in the Mackay Region'.
What is an Enquiry by Design Workshop?

Enquiry by Design (EbD) Workshops are an important part of the Local Area Plan preparation process. (see council’s ‘A Guide to Local Area Planning in the Mackay Region’ for more information).

EbD Workshops are multi-day planning and urban design forums that explore and test design and development ideas and options based on a comprehensive understanding of local issues, opportunities and constraints. The fundamental purpose of EbD Workshops is to inform the preparation of a Concept Plan over the local area.

Each EbD Workshop is unique as they are tailored to local characteristics and issues as well as the knowledge and skills of workshop participants. All EbD Workshops, however, generally involve the following:

- presentation of Context and Appraisal Report and Preliminary Vision to ‘frame’ the workshop;
- appreciation of the role and character of the local area and its place in the regional context;
- formulation of neighbourhood scale structure plans;
- formulation of potential precinct/site plans for key locations; and
- calculation of potential development yields (eg. potential population, commercial gross floor area required) and appreciation of trunk infrastructure required.

Who is involved in EbD Workshops?

Many stakeholders are invited to participate in EbD workshops. Some of these are:

- key land owners, businesses, residents’ associations, community groups and non-government organisations;
- elected representatives of council and other levels of government; and
- representatives of relevant council programs and state government agencies.

In some EbD Workshops, the wider community is invited to a presentation of the day’s outcomes at the end of each day of the workshop.

What do EbD Workshops cover?

In order to provide a solid foundation for the development of a Concept Plan, EbD Workshops can explore the following elements:

- land use type, intensity and mix, and development yields;
- access and mobility (covering roads, car parking, public transport, bicycles, pedestrians and disabled access);
- built environment principles (covering building and streetscape issues - form, height, design quality, character and climatic responsiveness);
- public domain principles (covering pedestrian environment, opportunities for public art, potential demonstration projects and landscaping);
- trunk infrastructure requirements (size/location/alignment), including:
  - sewerage;
  - water supply;
  - stormwater;
  - access (roads, carparking, public transport, bicycle, pedestrian, disabled);
  - open space and recreation;
  - community/social;
- development sequencing; and
- opportunities for cutting-edge best practice demonstration projects.