

Our plan our action

Showcasing success

Foreword

When the Community Engagement Board talked with South Australians about their visions for the future, we were often asked what actions are underway to help us achieve the targets in South Australia’s Strategic Plan.

People were keen to know about the work, action and effort of government, business and community organisations and how these different sectors were working together to build on South Australia’s strengths and make our state the best it can be.

This publication showcases some of these efforts. It is selective because the scope of work being undertaken would fill many volumes, but it provides a snapshot of a variety of programs and initiatives which aim to achieve the best outcome for South Australians.

Some of these programs have been ongoing for many years, with a specific focus and intention that flows seamlessly into the goals and targets of our Plan. Other programs are new, addressing issues of the day. All of the initiatives are excellent and I hope you enjoy reading about them.

Peter Blacker
Chair
Community Engagement Board
South Australia’s Strategic Plan

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What is South Australia's Strategic Plan?

The Plan describes the future we want for our state. The

visions in the Plan belong to South Australian individuals, families, community groups, businesses, stakeholders, state and local governments.

The Plan is a blueprint for our prosperity and wellbeing. It aspires to deliver a society where health, equality, safety, enterprise and creativity underpin a quality of life that is the envy of the world.

South Australia is a great place to live, but we can always improve by building on our strengths and tackling our weaknesses. The Plan helps us to map our way to a bright future. It has 100 targets which focus our efforts on our state's future goals, by providing a vision for improvements and outlining clear timelines in which to achieve them.

Importantly, the Plan evolves. It is flexible and open to adjustment, to ensure that it remains in touch with the changing priorities of South Australians. The inaugural Plan was launched in March 2004 and updated after a community engagement process in 2006. Four years later another update was undertaken.

Why do we have a Plan?

The Plan acts as a goad to action for us all. It helps us maintain our focus on what is of greatest importance, our view to the future and to long-term goals and aspirations.

In doing so it helps us all – business, communities, individuals and government – work together to fulfil the visions, goals and targets contained within the Plan.

How is the Plan used?

The Plan is used by government, business and community organisations alike.

The Plan drives state government policymaking and budgeting. Its importance as the roadmap to the state's future means that government is compelled to use it in a number of ways:

- New state government initiatives must outline how they will achieve the Plan's targets when they are submitted to Cabinet for approval
- The annual state budget is framed around the Plan
- It provides a high level framework for more detailed planning.
For example planning documents such as the 30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide, Water for Good and Skills for All support the Plan, helping to achieve its targets and objectives
- Chief executives from all state government agencies are accountable for achieving the Plan's targets as part of their personal performance agreements.

Seventy businesses and community organisations have to be signed up South Australia's Strategic Plan Alliance members. These organisations support the Plan by committing to achieve the targets through their own work.

In addition, many community groups, organisations, businesses and peak bodies use the Plan to frame their own business plans.

The Plan recognises that many organisations are working to deliver on agreed goals and targets. It serves as a framework for the establishment of partnerships that encourage organisations from different sectors to work together to achieve agreed goals.

This report provides exciting examples of the great work that the state government, Alliance members and other organisations are doing to deliver on South Australia's Strategic Plan.

What is the Community Engagement Board?

The Community Engagement Board (the Board) is an advisory body to the state government and acts as the conduit for community views about the Plan.

Recognising that community ownership of the Plan and its targets are crucial to long-term success, the Board's overriding goal is to seek improved engagement with a diverse range of businesses, local government, community and regional stakeholders in pursuit of Plan targets.

The Board comprises representatives from twelve high level South Australian government boards and committees.

Each member brings a wealth of skills and experience to the Board, as well as their own specialist focus. This diversity helps ensure that the Board has the breadth of membership to provide accurate advice on behalf of the community.

What is the purpose of this report?

When members of the Community Engagement Board were out and about meeting South Australians, people talked about how they wanted to understand how the Plan was translating into real action on the ground.

Our Plan, Our Action showcases best practice examples of the work of our Alliance members and state government agencies in pursuit of the Plan's objectives. It recognises work which delivers on the specific targets in the Plan and also supports the Plan's broader objectives of building partnerships and working together to achieve common goals.

The Board sought submissions for initiatives to include in this report from state government agencies and Alliance members. The initiatives were assessed against four key criteria:

- Extent of support for delivering on the Plan (and its targets)
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Engagement and consultation
- A point of difference – innovative edge.

In the Board's assessment, the initiatives presented here are exceptional examples of action and innovation that help to deliver on the Plan's goals using partnerships between government, non-government and business, and community engagement.

Many of the showcase initiatives were developed specifically to assist in developing the Plan's targets. Others, such as the Adelaide Fringe, have evolved in response to a target, while there are some, such as Time Out for Kids, which have been around for many years, but are as important today as they were when they were first started for achieving outcomes important for the state.

We hope this report serves to inform you about the valuable work already occurring to deliver on the Plan and that it encourages you to think about what you can do to contribute towards achieving the state's collective aims and aspirations.

Designing the city we all want

We are committed to our towns and cities being well designed, generating great experiences and a sense of belonging

Target: 1. Urban spaces

Integrated Design Commission

Numerous studies have identified Adelaide as one of the most liveable cities in the world. We consistently rate highly on a range of criteria including climate, economic stability, congestion, safety and culture.

But how do we preserve this status, ensuring that the enviable lifestyle that people in Adelaide enjoy now is still around for our children and grandchildren?

Well, we put effort into planning for it. We spend time today talking about where we want to be tomorrow.

What do we want Adelaide to look like in the future? It's a big question and an important one.

With Adelaide's future population likely to be bigger, and our suburbs denser, it is vital that we talk about what we want our city to become.

The 5000+ initiative is a joint State Government-Adelaide City Council project, backed by Australian Government funding and supported by the seven adjoining inner Adelaide councils (Charles Sturt, Prospect, Unley, Burnside, Walkerville, West Torrens and Norwood, Payneham and St Peters). The project is being delivered by the Integrated Design Commission.

It is a 'design first' project, bringing lots of people and organisations together to talk about the future design (the character and lifestyle) of inner-Adelaide. These conversations will provide recommendations for a framework to guide planning and development so that decisions are based on a shared vision for our city. Getting this right will help us achieve a significant number of Plan targets across the economic, social and environmental spheres of the Plan.

One of the first conversations was the Green City Forum. Led by the Australian Institute of

Architects, this forum brought together over 120 leaders in the field of environmental sustainability.

Helping families to thrive

We support families

Target: 12. Early childhood

Anglicare SA and UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide

Supporting families to give their children the best possible start in life is the central aim of Communities for Children, an initiative of Anglicare and UnitingCare Wesley within the City of Onkaparinga in Adelaide's south.

This program assists children, mothers, fathers, grandparents, young parents, carers, and communities to improve the safety and wellbeing of children. It builds capacity within the broad areas of health and learning by coordinating fun activities which bring children and their families together in a safe environment. The activities are delivered through a series of fun and relaxed workshops covering areas such as art, music, food and drama.

Workshops are focused on building community, developing partnerships between families, government, community leaders, businesses, and service providers. Everyone involved has the common goal of improving the lives of children.

Both coordinating organisations are Alliance members of South Australia's Strategic Plan and their programs and services are well aligned to achieving the community-focused goals and targets within the Plan. The Communities for Children initiative contributes to delivering on the Plan's target of improving childhood development.

Growing a better environment

We respect and enjoy our environment

Target: 72. Nature conservation

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Revitalising the environment, building stronger communities and giving the Kangaroo Island tourism industry a healthy boost are just some of the benefits of the Kangaroo Island Planting Festival.

The festival aims to restore the habitat for some of the island's rarest plants species on what is known as a 'landscape scale'. Put simply, this is a massive revegetation program!

Since 2007, the project has restored 138 hectares of native habitat, involving 1,600 volunteers

planting 368,000 seedlings and direct-seeding 4 million plants. The festival grows in size each year, with more than 600 volunteers, planting 52 hectares of habitat during the July 2011 event. This involved planting 120,000 seedlings over three days, equating to 7,000 plants an hour.

Eastern Kangaroo Island supports remnants of unique plant species, including a large number of endemic (occurs only on the island) and threatened species. Reinstatement of habitat to connect, buffer and enlarge these patches of surviving native vegetation is the most effective means of maintaining these species in the long-term.

This restoration work is occurring on private land through a unique partnership between government and non-government organisations, with the support of hundreds of volunteers from both the island and mainland. Partners include the Australian Government, Kangaroo Island NRM Board, Unilife, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Nature Foundation, BioR, Native Vegetation Council, The University of Adelaide, Zoos SA and the owners of Cygnet Park Sanctuary.

Using technology to overcome addiction

We assist people to deal with all forms of illness and to live a satisfying life where they can contribute to their community

Target: 86. Psychological wellbeing

Anglicare SA

An innovative 21st century way of delivering services is being tested in South Australia to help gamblers control their addiction. In a bold move, using the same technology that keeps a gambler glued to a screen, Anglicare SA has introduced counselling services via Facebook and messaging.

People who sign up for the service can select the days and times of the week when they feel most vulnerable. The service then sends messages and supports them as they work against their addiction. Operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the service is extremely convenient for recipients. The program is also complemented by a social networking site where participants can interact with people in situations similar to their own.

The service is focused on delivering on the needs of clients as each program is developed in conjunction with the person it aims to assist.

In partnership with the state government's Office for Problem Gambling, the program delivers a positive outcome across a number of Plan targets such as psychological wellbeing, economic disadvantage and innovation.

Building communities through art

People in our community support and care for each other, especially in times of need

Target: 23. Social participation

Life without Barriers

The Life without Barriers initiative uses music and art as therapy for disabled and homeless clients. Participants learn skills, build self-esteem and form friendships through the program. They are given opportunities to learn a diversity of skills in music, art, cooking, gardening and craft.

This initiative is an example of how small things can make a huge difference in people's lives.

This program helps deliver on the Plan target of increasing social participation and is working to help ensure that everyone has the opportunity to participate in learning opportunities.

Reaping the benefits of our resources

We develop and maintain a sustainable mix of industries across the state

Target: 41. Minerals exploration

Primary Industries and Resource SA

The 2004 launch of PACE (Plan for Accelerating Exploration) was a bold and significant action by the state government that has since propelled South Australia into international prominence as a key destination for exploration, mining and processing of minerals. Since 2006-07, PACE has been a direct contributor in achieving targets in South Australia's Strategic Plan.

PACE provided a catalyst for capital investment and exploration whilst also defining essential strategies for the discovery of South Australia's hidden wealth. It is an evolving state government initiative with the flexibility to adapt to the changing marketplace, most notably represented by the launch of PACE 2020.

PACE 2020 will leverage existing success and go further, focussing on new areas and methods for exploration as well as developing best practice mine development processes which enable mining projects to be approved faster and with less red-tape.

PACE 2020 will also build on our world-class service to the mining industry, by providing even more geological and geophysical information online to support the minerals and energy industry.

PACE 2020 operates with the core principles of economic stimulation, development of environmentally and socially sustainable mining, increasing cultural awareness and balancing development with the environment. It demonstrates how collaboration between the state government, industry and academic institutions can benefit current and future generations of South Australians.

The PACE 2020 initiative is a significant contribution to our future economic strength and is essential for achieving our Plan targets on minerals exploration and production.

Giving kids a break

We address the causes of crime

Target: 17. State wide crime rates

Time for Kids

Time for Kids was set up in 1960 as an intervention program for disadvantaged children. William Scales, head of South Australia's Juvenile Court at the time, established the program with a vision to provide early intervention through respite care and family support.

The program involves volunteer families taking children aged up to 17 years old on placements for one weekend each month. This support is designed to lead the children, as they grow older, away from the risks of incarceration, drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness, youth offending and dropping out of school.

During the past 50 years the program has placed more than 4,600 South Australian children and not one of them has ever appeared before a juvenile court while involved in the program. The initiative plays a critical role in helping to address the causes of crime and working to achieve our crime reduction target.

In 2009, Time Out for Kids received the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Award which recognises outstanding community based programs that prevent or reduce crime and violence.

Many of the children who have gone through the program say that knowing they have been especially chosen and wanted by a host family has had the biggest single impact on their lives. Matthew had this to say about his experience "... if I had never been offered the chance to expand my horizons when I was younger and to experience a different way of life, I wouldn't have developed into the person I am".

Creating energy through our festivals

We are the Festival State. Our festivals, cultural venues and events create a vibrant and energetic atmosphere

Target: 3. Cultural vibrancy – arts activities

Adelaide Fringe

Each year, the Adelaide Fringe offers a program packed full of thought-provoking theatre, fun comedians, lithe dancers, incredible puppets and memorable visual art.

In 2011, the Adelaide Fringe hit a record high achieving more than 330,000 ticket sales with 762 shows. It showcased more than 400 South Australian artists whilst also drawing hundreds of

performers from all over the world.

The creative spirit and diversity of the Fringe was further showcased in 2011, when the festival's colourful retro-themed caravan took to the road, travelling to key tourism and shopping precincts interstate. The caravan folds out into a performance space showcasing the best Adelaide Fringe talent giving crowds a taste of the fun.

An initiative of the South Australian Government and supported by sponsors including Principal Partner Bank SA, the Adelaide Fringe plays a central role in making South Australia a vibrant, energetic and fun place to live. It assists in helping achieve our Plan target of increasing attendance at arts events by 150% by 2020.

Building skills and self esteem

We are proud of South Australia and celebrate our diverse culture and people

Target: 5. Multiculturalism

Penguin Club

Many people are terrified of public speaking.

Imagine how challenging this would be for a refugee whose second language is English and who has arrived in this country without the support of family and friends. A wonderful program initiated by the Penguin Club of Australia (SA), in conjunction with the Migrant Resource Centre, gives refugee women the chance to develop their public speaking skills.

The 74 women who have already graduated from this program have indicated their intention to build upon what they have learned and set up their own groups to continue to develop their English and communication skills.

The program has far reaching benefits for some of the most vulnerable people in our society. It builds proficiency in language in a supportive environment. Participants also learn to make presentations, which helps to develop their confidence and self-esteem.

Ultimately the program encourages new South Australians to make a new life for themselves and their families in their adopted country.

It also supports our Plan targets to improve psychological wellbeing, increase understanding of different cultures and address economic disadvantage.

Teaching the

importance of reading

We support families

Target: 14. Early childhood (Year 1 literacy)

The Smith Family

Being able to read is fundamental to participating in daily life. Helping children discover the delights of the written word, and to learn by reading, opens up their window to the world.

The Smith Family, in partnership with councils, libraries, community groups, and child health centres has developed the Let's Read initiative. The program is delivered at a local level and aims to foster a love of reading that better prepares children for school. The program encourages parents to read to their children aged 0-5 years.

The program supports the achievement of the literacy and early childhood development targets in South Australia's Strategic Plan.

Walking side by side

We value Australian culture and respect diversity

Target: 27. Understanding Aboriginal culture

Independent Schools Association of SA

When primary school students go on their annual school camp they usually have a couple of days sleeping in bunk beds somewhere not too far from home.

Year 7 students from Investigator College in Goolwa, on the other hand, have an intensive language course and get to travel to other countries. The language they learn is Pitjantjatjara and the countries they visit are the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands in far north South Australia.

It is all part of a cultural exchange which also sees students from the APY Lands visit Goolwa, billeting with local families during their visit. The program builds respect and understanding between cultures, raising awareness and understanding. John, one of the parents, says the exchange program: '...gives students a chance to develop an understanding of another culture, before bias and prejudice are fully formed'.

This program is included in the publication *Successful Outcomes Positive Experiences, Working with Indigenous Students and Families*, which is an initiative of the Association of Independent Schools of SA and supports educational outcomes and Aboriginal wellbeing. The Investigator College program has been in operation since 2004.

The final word must go to one of the students, 'Indulkana was a life-changing journey for me and I will never forget it.'

Getting engagement right

People in our community support and care for each other, especially in times of need

Target: 23. Social participation

Social Inclusion Board

Listening and learning from the community and individual South Australians are at the heart of the Social Inclusion Initiative. The Initiative's policy development approach contains the core principle of Active Listening. The active listening process engages a diverse range stakeholders but fundamentally seeks out the people who *are most affected*, to be heard. The process ensures that the most disengaged and vulnerable members in our community are given a say on the problem and the solution.

Since the Social Inclusion Initiative inception in 2002, it has developed and implemented policy and programs across the areas of homelessness, drug abuse, Aboriginal health and wellbeing, school retention, youth offending, mental health and disability.

Across these areas, the Active Listening process has supported the community to identify the problems, develop the solutions and monitor the effectiveness of the government's response.

The Stepping Up Mental Health Reform, engaged four panels of consumer, professional and agency representatives to consolidate information and build consensus. It also established a feedback loop to refine ideas and recommendations and created the Mental Health Consumer Advisory Group to provide ongoing advice to the Commissioner on the implementation of the reform.

The Disability Blueprint community engagement process (in 2010), represented the largest statewide consultation commissioned by the Board. In total 2,011 people were involved through a far-reaching range of activities designed to bring as many voices into the process as possible. Many of these were the voices of people with disability and their families and carers.

Activating our journeys to school

We educate young people about healthy living

Target: 82. Healthy weight

Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure

Using safer, greener and more active modes for school journeys improves health, reduces traffic congestion and assists in forming friendships and social networks.

Encouraging children to be active and independent is one goal of Way2Go, an initiative by the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure that aims to get more children safely walking, riding their bikes and using public transport to get to and from school.

In partnership with local councils and schools, the department supports the development of five year School Travel Plans. The plans include a teaching program for students from R – 7 and targets to increase the number of children using active methods of getting to school. Key messages taught in the classroom are reinforced with information and activities for parents and families.

For schools keen on promoting cycling, Way2Go Bike Ed gives children aged 10 to 13 the knowledge and skills for safe bike riding.

Councils also work with department engineers to identify improvements to the road network with a focus on the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

Managing our farm land well

We look after our land, rivers and wetlands

Target: 70. Sustainable land management

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

South Australia needs to look after its soil. Good quality soil brings life to large parts of rural South Australia. Productive farming relies on healthy, fertile soils and agriculture makes up a major part of our state's economy.

The Sustainable Dryland Agriculture Initiative encompasses a range of projects designed to encourage the adoption of sustainable farming practices to help protect the state's soil.

The project's focus on improving soil protection through the adoption of stubble retention and no-till farming, improved grazing management and claying sandy soils.

For example, interactive workshops on grazing crop stubbles are held with farmers to help them understand the feed requirements of livestock and maintain adequate surface cover to protect their soils.

Driven by South Australia's Strategic Plan, the projects involve joint funding arrangements between industry, Natural Resources Management (NRM) Boards and the State NRM Program. With an investment of \$600,000 per annum, partnerships have been forged with farming organisations and the Eyre Peninsula, Northern and Yorke, and SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Boards.

A positive response from the projects has demonstrated the growing desire by farmers to adopt more sustainable farming practices to protect and improve their soils.

Understanding country and culture

We value Australian culture and respect diversity

Target: 27. Understanding of Aboriginal culture

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Aboriginal peoples of the sea, the plains, the desert, the Murray, the ranges and the coasts have a deep and ongoing relationship to country.

The Aboriginal Song-lines project aims to enhance this relationship and ensure it is passed onto future generations, by defining the boundaries and highlighting landscape features which tell a traditional creation story for the Flinders Ranges within the Adnyamathanha native title claim area.

Instigated by the Viliwarintha Yura Aboriginal Corporation and supported by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, the Song-lines project is an exceptional example of how a partnership between the state government and the community is working to secure the future of our rich Aboriginal culture.

This initiative helps to deliver on a number of targets in South Australia's Strategic Plan which focus on Aboriginal leadership and cultural understanding.

Providing job opportunities for all

All South Australians have job opportunities

Target: 48. Ageing workforce participation

Don't Overlook Mature Expertise (DOME) Association

Don't Overlook Mature Expertise is the practical motto which gives the DOME Association its name. This undertaking is all about finding opportunities for the long-term unemployed by giving them the support and skills to gain ongoing work. It aligns with a suite of goals within South Australia's Strategic Plan which aim to give all South Australians job opportunities, while lowering our unemployment rates.

For 30 years the not-for-profit DOME Association has been providing a niche service to mature-aged unemployed people and people with disabilities. The organisation provides training and assessment, voluntary work opportunities and advocacy services to its clients, with the aim of getting them back to work.

Since its inception, DOME has seen over 20,000 people return to the workforce, changing their lives in a lasting way. This work will be instrumental in helping to deliver on our new target of increasing the proportion of older South Australians engaged in the workforce.

Putting the brakes on long term unemployment^{All}

South Australians have job opportunities

Target: 47. Jobs

Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology

Twenty four long-term unemployed northern suburbs residents are now working at Holden, thanks to an innovative program developed by the car giant in partnership with the state government.

The unique program was a result of collaboration between Holden, the Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology (DFEEST), TAFE SA and the Australian Government.

DFEEST, through its responsive South Australia Works program approached Holden to develop a pre-employment project to assist with future labour requirements, as the company moved to increase the size of its Elizabeth workforce.

Through their involvement in a ten week pre-employment program, conducted at TAFE SA's Elizabeth campus, people developed skills in reading and maths, occupational health and safety, interview techniques and equipment operation. The course also included a two week, on-the-job training work experience placement at Holden Vehicle Operations. This helped the participants to understand the high level of skill, dexterity and fitness required to work within a manufacturing environment.

Once the program concluded and participants entered the workforce, they continued to receive personal support through a workplace buddy system.

One new Holden worker, Blair Foord 25, said his new job had helped him regain confidence. "I was unemployed for over 12 months before this... I now love coming to work each day because it's great to finally have some income happening and the security of a full-time job."

Leading our water future

Industry and agriculture are highly efficient and innovative in their use of water

Target: 75. Sustainable water use

South Australia has been steadily gaining a reputation, both nationally and internationally, as a leader in modern water management.

This is not surprising given that South Australia, has a dry climate with low annual rainfall and large arid areas where mining industry and rural communities are based.

Consequently, the development of South Australia's scientific knowledge base and technical capacity have been driven in part through necessity, with South Australia now a national leader in groundwater research and management, stormwater and wastewater recycling and in pioneering irrigation efficiencies.

Innovation in water management is being extended through the establishment of the \$50 million Goyder Institute for Water Research. Established in July 2010, the Goyder Institute is a water research organisation that brings together the best scientists and researchers across Australia.

It provides expert and independent scientific advice to inform good government water policy and identify future threats and opportunities to ensure our water future.

The Goyder Institute for Water Research is a collaboration between the South Australian Government through the Department for Water, the CSIRO as Australia's national research institution and South Australia's three universities – the University of Adelaide, the University of South Australia and Flinders University. Establishment of the Goyder Institute was facilitated by the Chief Scientist and the Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology.

Taking care of ourselves

We are active in looking after our health

Target: 82. Healthy weight

Department of Health

When the two French towns of Fleurbaix and Laventie showed that a whole of community approach to lifestyle could have a major impact on turning around childhood obesity, South Australia wanted to know more.

The program's introduction in South Australia (where nearly 20% of four year olds are overweight or obese), addresses our target to reduce obesity. The Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle program, or OPAL, is a joint initiative of federal, state and local governments and a key program of SA's Eat Well Be Active Strategy.

Sixteen communities currently participate in OPAL with another five to join in 2012, each for a period of five years. OPAL will reach approximately 25% of the South Australian population making it the largest community-based, obesity prevention venture of its type, in Australia's history.

The philosophy of OPAL is that the needs of the community dictate the programs' direction locally. Needs are identified through an initial community engagement process and ongoing consultation via local forums and advisory committees. OPAL staff situated within councils, work with local families

and community groups such as shops, neighbourhood houses, schools, council staff and welfare organisations to create locally relevant strategies which support families to eat well and be active.

Strategies range from providing information to policies, programs and changes to the environment.

As well as local initiatives, broader healthy lifestyle campaigns have been used across the OPAL sites. So far campaigns have included, 'Water, the original cool drink' which encourages young people to drink water rather than soft drinks, and 'Make it a fresh snack', an initiative encouraging parents to choose fresh, unpackaged foods for their kids.

Giving back to the community

We are connected to our communities and give everyone a fair go

Target: 25. Support for people with a disability

Fuji Xerox

Fuji Xerox Australia (SA) is helping those in most need through a local initiative. The company has a strong commitment to making a positive social contribution, particularly at a local level. Their grants program contributes \$50 from every one of their machines sold to the state government. This money is used to support disadvantaged people in the community.

In 2009 Novita, the not-for-profit organisation serving children with disabilities, was chosen as a recipient of the grants program. It was able to buy new wheelchairs and other essential equipment for three 9-year-olds with severe disabilities.

A partnership created through the Community Engagement Board's Alliance program, the initiative has demonstrated how a small investment can make a profound difference.

Making ripples in the regions

We value and promote artistic vibrancy and excellence and celebrate community expressions through the arts.

Target: 99.

Cultural engagement – institutions

Arts SA

In Murray Bridge, an arts transformation has taken place, giving residents a place to experience arts in all its forms.

The historic town hall and regional gallery of Murray Bridge have been transformed through the SA Regional Centre of Culture Program, providing a new cultural precinct for residents. The initiative represents the biggest arts infrastructure project undertaken in regional South Australia for the past 25 years.

The town now has more than just a gallery where art hangs on the walls; it has a sculpture court and a new performance space too.

In 2010 Country Arts SA, working in partnership with the regional council and local community, presented Ripples, a year-long program of arts and cultural activities. The program engaged the community in activities that helped break down the barriers of social isolation. Young people and the local Ngarrindjeri people were among the many groups that participated.

The SA Regional Centre of Culture Program actively supports our target of increasing capacity and participation in all areas of the arts.

Paving a road to the future

Every member of the community can equally participate in learning opportunities

Target: 91. Non-school qualifications

UniSA College

Enabling and assisting South Australians to get into university is central to the aims of the newly established UniSA College. By offering programs that prepare students for university, such as foundation studies and diploma programs, and developing pathways that connect schools and the community to the university, the college aims to raise students' aspirations for further education. In this way, the initiative helps ensure that the community can equally participate in tertiary education.

The college also develops the skills needed to support the growth of industry in the northern regions of the state.

An initiative of the University of South Australia, the UniSA College and its component programs are supported by numerous partners including local councils, the state government, schools, sporting and community organisations.

UniSA College is an exciting initiative that works towards achieving a large number of targets in South Australia's Strategic Plan, including: increasing the proportion of the population with non-school qualifications, increasing the number of young people learning or earning and reducing economic disadvantage.

Welcoming international students to SA

South Australia is renowned as an educational leader

Target: 90. Share of overseas students

Study Adelaide

Heading overseas to study is likely to mean that you're looking for a lot more than the four walls of a university library to inspire you.

International students coming to Adelaide want something more. They want an experience to remember, one which will broaden their horizons, stretch them socially, and leave them with a Facebook page packed with photos of their Australian adventures.

StudyAdelaide, South Australia's international education marketing agency, runs a successful student engagement and community support program that adds to what is provided by the educational institutions. It ensures that international students benefit from a world-class education experience that goes well beyond the classroom.

The program includes a year-long calendar of free and discounted social events, competitions and information sessions that immerse students in South Australian life. In 2010 StudyAdelaide planned, managed and promoted 35 events attended by more than 5,300 students. Events are delivered in partnership with government agencies, sport clubs and advocacy groups, and provide students with the skills and know-how to embrace life in Adelaide, meet locals and have a good time!

The program's success has created an army of brand ambassadors who blog, tweet and share images promoting Adelaide as one of the world's great learning cities and an educational leader.

Want to know more?

So there you have it, 23 exceptional examples of work occurring both in and outside government that help us deliver on the visions, goals and targets outlined in South Australia's Strategic Plan.

The Board hopes that these initiatives have whet your appetite to learn more about the Plan the initiatives outlined or the many other projects and programs which are assisting us in building the best state possible.

To find out more go to the Plan's website.

Alternatively you can share your views by leaving a comment or two on our Facebook or Twitter sites or take a look at our live blogging site where you can engage with the South Australian Government any time of day!

Website: www.saplan.org.au

Twitter: www.twitter.com/YourFutureSA

Facebook: www.facebook.com/

YouTube: www.youtube.com/yourfuturesa

Email: saplan@saugov.sa.gov.au

Want to join the Alliance program?

The Alliance program aims to generate greater ownership of the Plan by encouraging non-

government organisations, businesses and community groups to identify targets which they can contribute towards achieving.

Between the four-yearly Plan updates, Alliance members identify important issues and trends and continue conversations with the government about how we can work together towards achieving targets in the Plan. The program also offers great networking and partnership opportunities.

To date, 70 organisations have become Alliance members. The full list of membership (at mid-2011) is included in this report.

Any organisation can become an Alliance member and the Board are keen for you to get involved. Organisations wishing to find out more about the program, or keen to join, can follow the links on the web site or e-mail us on saplan@saugov.sa.gov.au

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Community Engagement Board

Peter Blacker, Chair

Deb Agnew, Regional Communities Consultative Council

Prof Don Bursill AM, Chair, Premier's Science and Research Council (and SA Chief Scientist)

Professor Anne Edwards AO, Co-chair Premier's Women's Council

Kate Gould, Co-chair Premier's Women's Council

Dr Lorna Hallahan, Chair, Minister's Disability Advisory Council

Nicole Halsey, Climate Change Council

Andrew Inglis, Chair, Natural Resources Management Council

Emma Moulds, Minister's Youth Council

John Rich, Local Government Association

Sharon Starick, Natural Resources Management Council

Darren Thomas, Economic Development Board

Hieu Van Le AO Lieutenant Governor, Chair, Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

Paul Vandenbergh, SA Aboriginal Advisory Council

Margaret Wagstaff, Social Inclusion Board

Alliance Members

1. Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement
2. Anglicare SA
3. Association of Independent Schools of SA
4. Australian Industry Group
5. Australian Information Industry Association
6. Australian Institute of Architects
7. Australian Institute of Management
8. Australian Writers' Guild

9. Bedford Group Inc
10. Bendigo Bank
11. Bicycle SA
12. Business SA
13. Cancer Council SA
14. Carers SA
15. Community & Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Inc
16. Conservation Council of South Australia
17. Council on the Ageing
18. DOME SA
19. Education Adelaide
20. Engineering for Humanity
21. Family Business Australia SA
22. Flinders Centre for Science Education in the 21st Century
23. Flinders University
24. Fuji Xerox
25. Girl Guides of South Australia
26. Greening Australia
27. GreenMode
28. Hospitality Group Training
29. Housing Industry Association
30. HR Development at Work
31. KiikStart Pty Ltd
32. Kojo Productions
33. KPMG
34. Leaders Institute of South Australia
35. Life Without Barriers SA/NT
36. Lifeline South East
37. Local Government Association
38. Master Builders Association of SA
39. Mental Health Coalition of SA
40. Migrant Resource Centre of SA
41. Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia Inc
42. National Disability Services
43. Nous Group
44. OARS Community Transitions
45. Penguin Club of SA
46. Property Council of Australia SA Division
47. Quit SA
48. Relationships Australia SA
49. Royal District Nursing Service
50. SA Association of School Parents Club Inc
51. SA Sport and Recreation Association for People with Integration Difficulties
52. SA Sports Federation
53. Save the Children Australia SA
54. South Australian Film Corporation
55. South East Local Government Association
56. Southern Youth Theatre Ensemble
57. Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of SA Inc

58. Technology Industry Association
59. The Smith Family
60. Time for Kids Inc
61. Tutti Ensemble Inc
62. United Way South Australia Inc
63. Uniting Care Wesley
64. University of Adelaide
65. University of South Australia
66. VIEW (The Voice, Interest and Education of Women)
67. Volunteering SA
68. Weeks Group
69. YWCA of Adelaide

Our partners in action

www.saplan.org.au