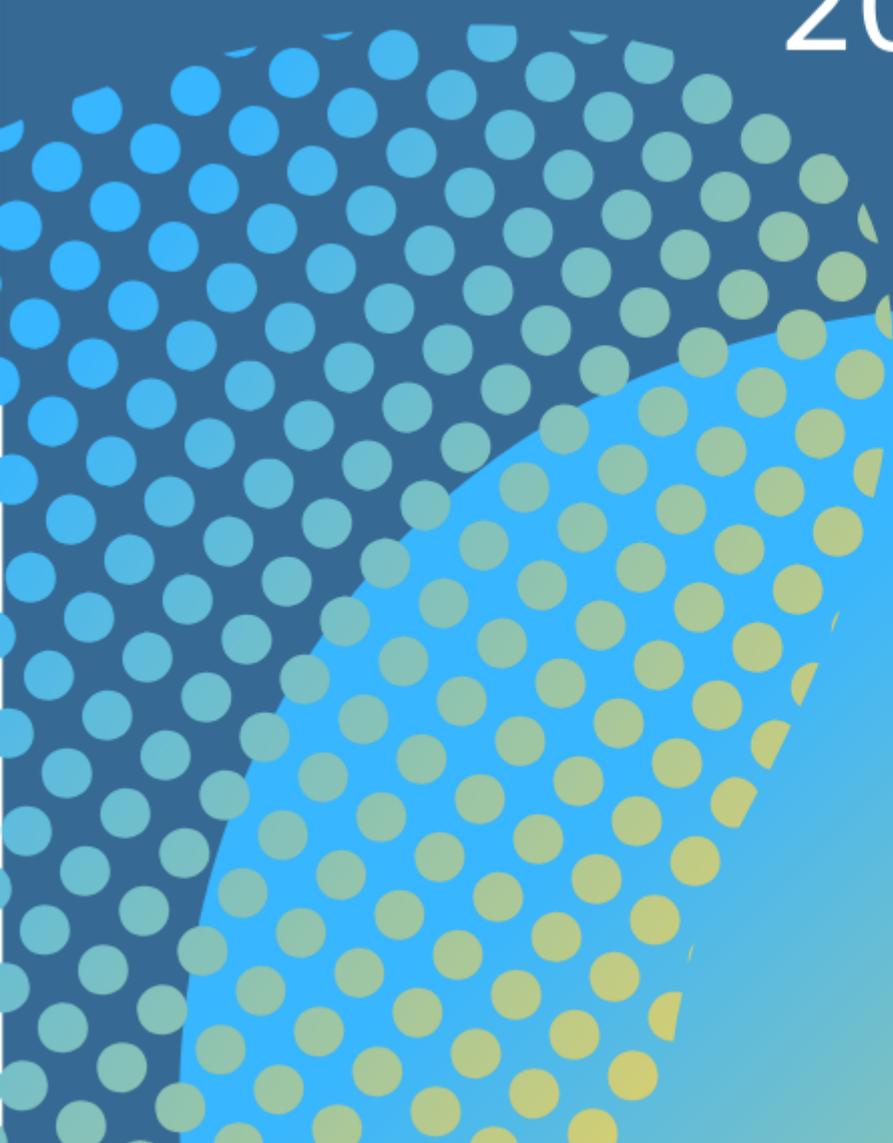


Berri Barmera Council

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

2020 - 2025



Berri^{*}
Barmera
COUNCIL

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the first peoples of the River Murray as the traditional custodians of the land and respect their spiritual relationship with their country and the importance of their cultural beliefs.

Public Consultation

In April 2019, Elected Members and senior staff participated in a workshop facilitated by Strategic Matters Ms Leanne Muffet. A Berri Barmera area community survey was held over the May-June 2019 period, receiving feedback from 58 residents. The information provided from the workshop and survey provided feedback on Council programs, achievements and ongoing priorities across community, economic and environmental spheres and has assisted Council to build this Plan for the future of the Berri Barmera Community.

Photo credit: Grant Schwartzkopff photography Lake

Bonney, Barmera Page 8

Berri Rowing Regatta—Lifestyle theme

Martin Bend Berri—Natural Environment theme

Adopted 26 November 2019

Foreword

Welcome to the Berri Barmera Council's Strategic Community Plan.

This Plan shares the vision and aspirations for the future of the Berri Barmera Council and outlines how we will, over the next 5 years, work towards achieving the best possible outcomes for our District.

We will continue to focus on the liveability, environmental and economic factors which affect the quality of life for our residents. It is our role to listen, lead, provide for and advocate on behalf of our community taking into account the community's wishes to ensure our towns and region remain a vibrant, safe and clean place to live.

The Plan acknowledges three important themes to ensure we appropriately recognise the desires of our community and to ensure we deliver a future we all can be proud of.

LIFESTYLE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BUSINESS

Council recognises the challenges we face with regards to drought, climate change and the reduction in industry over recent years, yet despite these challenges Council works very hard to provide the best services, infrastructure and support that it can.

The Plan particularly acknowledges the natural beauty and tranquil lifestyle our environment affords us and recognises the importance of our natural resources not only for our community well-being and identity but also the economic benefits brought to our region through these natural qualities.

Council have an outstanding workforce who are passionate about the area they live and work in and who diligently support Elected Members in *Building a Better Community*.

We look forward to working in partnership with the community and other key stakeholders to achieve the Vision and Strategies outlined in this Plan.



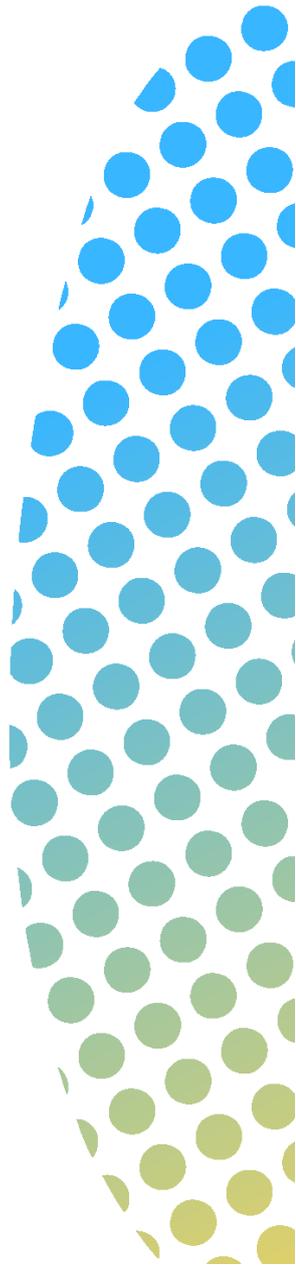
PETER HUNT

Mayor



KARYN BURTON

Chief Executive Officer



Our Elected Members



Mayor Peter Hunt



Cr Rhonda Centofanti



Cr Margaret Evans OAM



Cr Andrew Kassebaum



Cr Mike Fuller



Cr Adrian Little



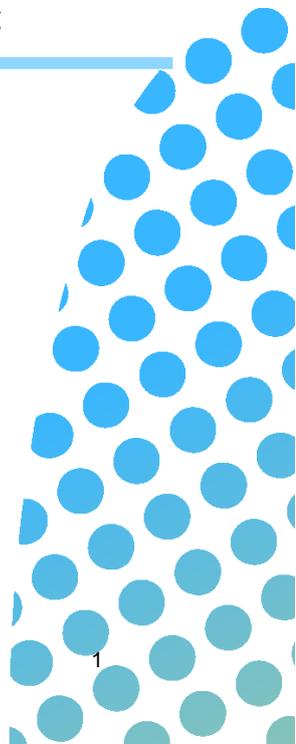
Cr Meta Sindos



Cr Trevor Scott



Cr Ella Winnall



Snapshot of the region



Population 10,853



Land area 47,630ha



Asset value \$213m

Land Use

The Berri Barmera Council area is predominantly rural, with small townships at Barmera and Berri, and smaller settlements at Cobdogla, Glossop, Monash and Loveday. Land is used largely for horticulture and viticulture, particularly citrus, fruit and grape growing. The Council area encompasses a total land area of about 480 square kilometres.

Included areas

The Berri Barmera Council area includes the localities of Barmera, Berri, Cobdogla, Glossop, Katarapko, Loveday, Monash, Overland Corner and Winkie.

Location and Boundaries

The Berri Barmera Council area is located in the Riverland Region of South Australia, about 230 kilometres north-east of Adelaide CBD.

Name Origin

Berri is thought to be named from an Aboriginal word meaning "a wide bend in the River". Barmera is thought to be named from an Aboriginal word meaning "lake" or "place of king spears".

Median age 45



Overseas born 12%



Annual rainfall 227mm



Unemployment rate 6.9%



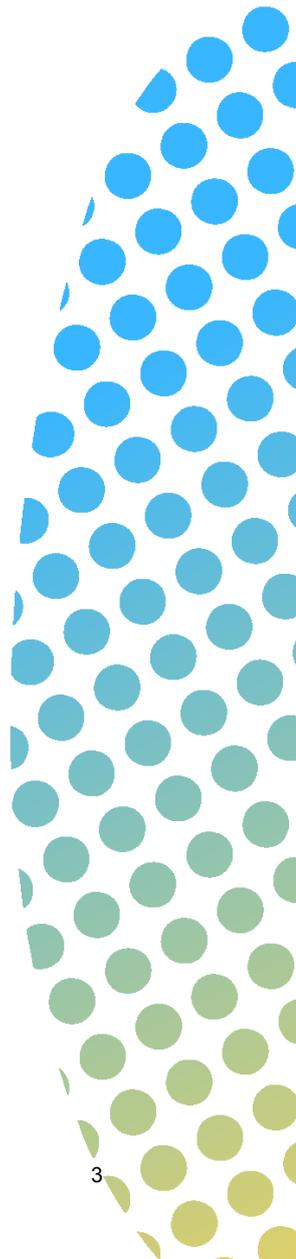
Median weekly household income \$971



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population 4.4%

Our role

Leader	Council leading the community, modelling activity, resource management, and accountable governance	
Service Provider	Council directly delivering services, providing assets or managing community funds	
Partner	Council contributing funds and/or resources and working collaboratively with others to deliver a service or initiative that improves economic, community and environmental quality of life	
Regulator	Council fulfilling a particular role as determined by legislation	
Advocate	Council is an informed and compelling voice making representation on behalf of the community	



Role of a Council

Strategic Community Plan

Pursuant to the Local Government Act, 1999, the Berri Barmera Council is required to undertake a comprehensive review of its Strategic Community Plan within two years of a Council general election.

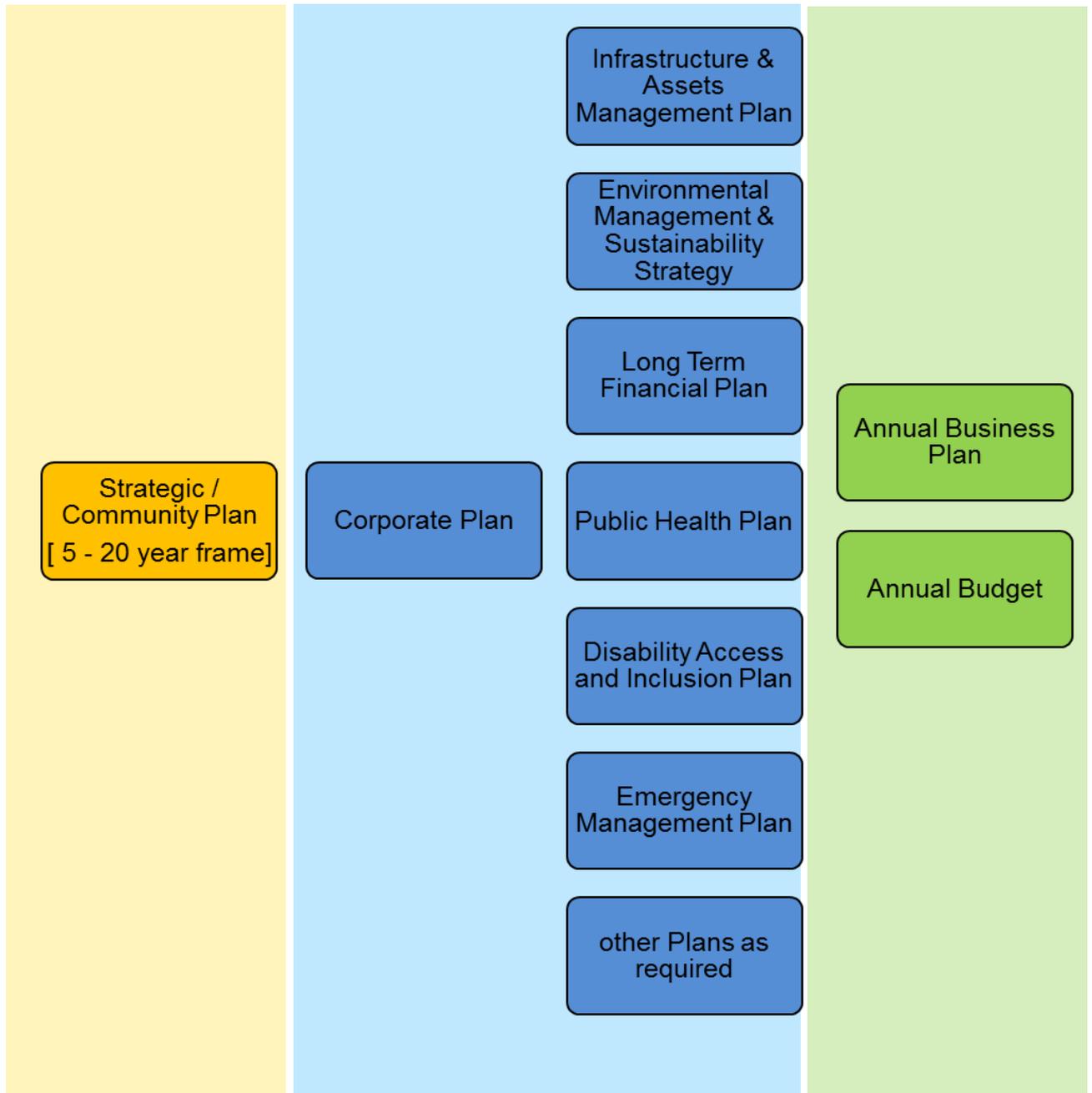
This Strategic Community Plan is a tool for defining the direction of the Berri Barmera Council. By identifying a vision, guiding Theme, strategies and actions the Council is creating a roadmap for 2020-2025.

Strategic planning identifies what is important to the community and establishes mid to longer term guiding themes and strategies in order to move towards achieving the goals set by the community.

Effective strategic planning articulates not only where Council is going but the actions it intends to take to successfully progress towards and achieve the outcomes it has set.

Under section 122 of the Local Government Act 1999, Councils are required to adopt plans for the management of their areas.

The framework aside outlines the Berri Barmera Council's key strategic planning documents and their relationship in directing service delivery to the community.



Strategic /
Community Plan
[5 - 20 year frame]

Corporate Plan

Infrastructure &
Assets
Management Plan

Environmental
Management &
Sustainability
Strategy

Long Term
Financial Plan

Public Health Plan

Disability Access
and Inclusion Plan

Emergency
Management Plan

other Plans as
required

Annual Business
Plan

Annual Budget

***Aspirational
(long term)***

***Operational
(mid term)***

***Operational
(annual)***

Our vision

To enhance the liveability and enterprise of our community.

Our values

Professionalism

Excellence

Service

Leadership

Resilience

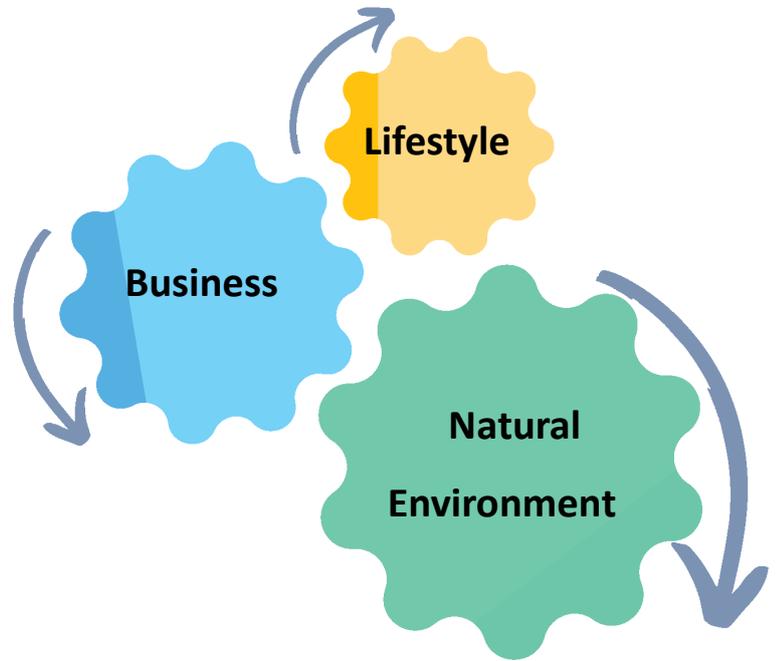
Accountability

Inclusiveness

Our themes

Our Strategic Community Plan is shaped by three themes.

Our commitment to these three themes shapes our work, our values and our practices.



Lifestyle

Vibrant and welcoming lifestyle



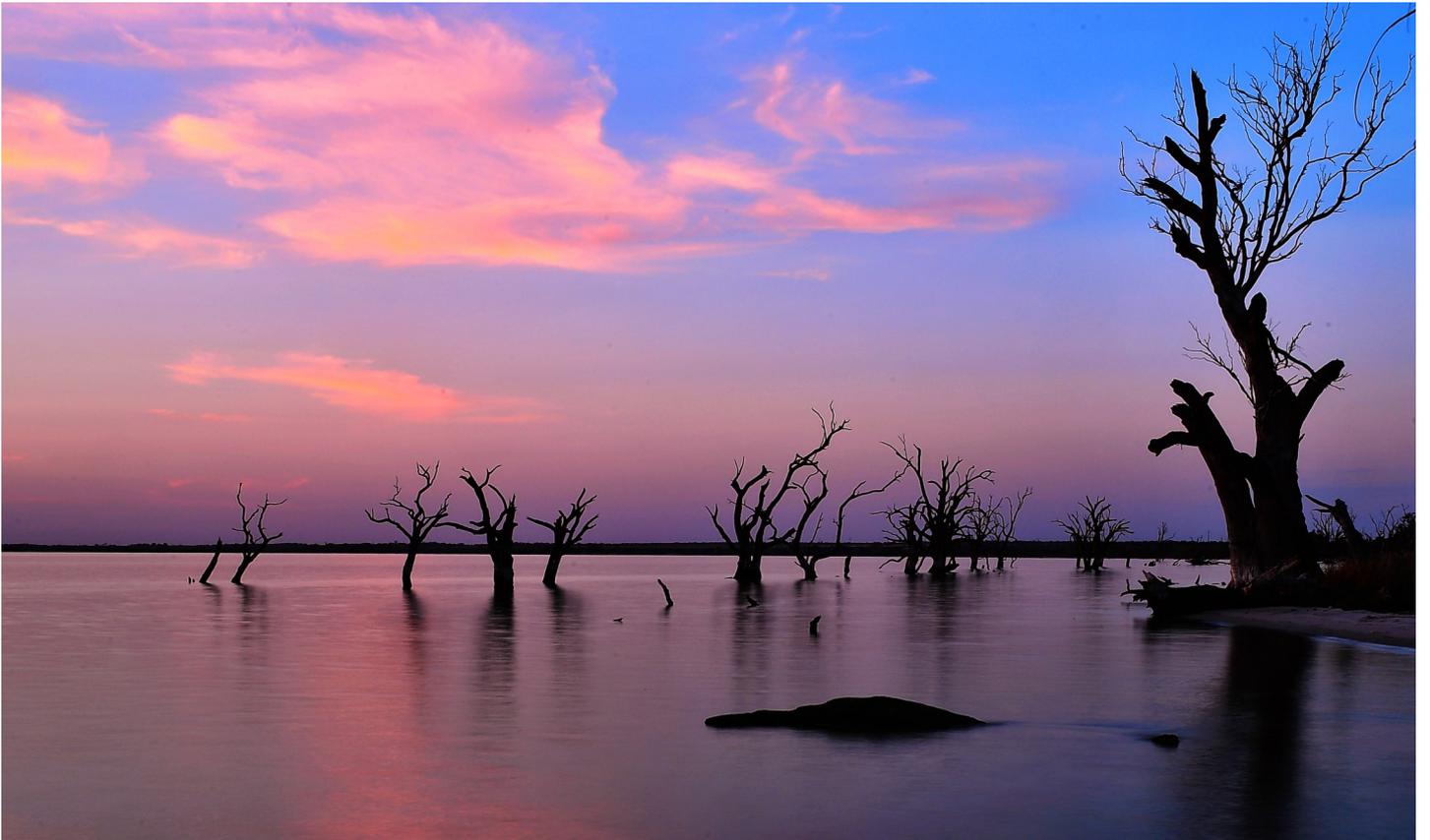
Natural Environment

Valuing and protecting the natural environment



Business

Open for business



Measures of Success

We will know we have achieved our vision when the following things occur:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • | Our demographic profile is diverse and growing and sustainable |
| • | Our People feel happy, safe, connected and enjoy a sense of belonging. |
| • | Our council delivers and or supports successful festivals and events throughout the year |
| • | Our visitors and residents gather and interact in public spaces |
| • | Council infrastructure and decision making is deemed as accessible |
| • | Our public and social infrastructure is integrated and well planned |
| • | Our community organisations are stable, financially viable, and skilled |
| • | Our eco systems are thriving and support native flora and fauna. |
| • | Our streetscapes are highly functional, comfortable and easy to navigate |
| • | Our buildings, businesses, and infrastructure are climate resilient |
| • | Our Council sustains and grows the number of visitors (returned and new) |
| • | Our region generates local energy |
| • | Our reliance on the River Murray is reduced |
| • | Our region attracts new business |
| • | Our local businesses are important employers |
| • | Our school leavers remain in region or return as our district is a liveable place of choice for young adults. |
| • | Our residents have access to reliable and cost-effective utilities |
| • | Our residents and business have access to high speed and reliable broadband Internet and telecommunication systems. |
| • | Our community is satisfied with transparency of processes and decision-making |
| • | Our Elected Members have a diversity of skills and experience |
| • | Our Council is known as an employer of choice |

Theme 1



Lifestyle

Vibrant and welcoming lifestyle

The *Lifestyle* theme positions Council to contribute to creating strong and sustainable community networks, initiate and support activities which encourage participation and pride, facilitate healthy lifestyles through structured and unstructured recreational pursuits. This theme also encompasses ways in which to support cultural diversity, aged and disability services and youth development.

The *Lifestyle* theme is underpinned with a desire to continue to create highly enjoyable spaces, experiences and attractive tourist sites, supported with country hospitality and pride.

What success looks like:

- Our demographic profile is diverse (including the very young to the very old and culturally rich)
- Our people feel happy, safe, connected and enjoy a sense of belonging.
- Our council delivers and or supports successful festivals and events throughout the year
- Our visitors and residents gather and interact in public spaces
- Our council infrastructure and decision making is deemed as accessible
- Our public and social infrastructure is integrated and well planned
- Our community organisations are stable, financially viable, and skilled

Strategies

	<i>Leader</i> 	<i>Service provider</i> 	<i>Partner</i> 	<i>Regulator</i> 	<i>Advocate</i> 
	Strategies				Role
L1	Embed place-making and safety principles in community infrastructure and regulate planning and development in public spaces				
L2	Foster local Aboriginal heritage and ongoing connections to the land				
L3	Engage with, and support, young people to actively participate in the community and contribute actively to their futures				  
L4	Encourage and support volunteering in the community.				  
L5	Provide opportunities for the community to participate in local civic issues and decision-making				 
L6	Ensure Council infrastructure supports accessibility for families, the ageing population and people with disabilities through Council's planning and design principles				   
L7	Continue to renew the council; region through the development of restaurant/café facilities, camping, playgrounds and other civic spaces				  
L8	Partner with others to support and maintain a vibrant and arts, cultural, heritage and events sector.				 
L9	Enhance utilisation of Council-owned recreation facilities for a more diverse range of activities aligned to community and cultural needs				  
L10	Partner with others to foster continuous local improvement in health service provision, facilities and infrastructure				 
L11	We will support and encourage diverse housing and land to meet demand, support the community and encourage development, recognising the need for affordability.				 
L12	Advocate for increase to community transport and access to services and facilities both within and across townships.				
L13	Work with the Federal and State Government to create a sense of welcome and provision of essential services across our community				  
L14	Continue to invest in urban infrastructure that promotes connection, relaxation, safety, and hospitality				  

Theme 2



Natural Environment

Valuing and protecting the natural environment

The *Natural Environment* theme focuses on reducing the overall environmental impact of Council's activities and enhancing our natural attributes. This theme focuses on providing and maintaining quality assets, infrastructure and services to meet the current and future needs of the community, while valuing and protecting the natural environment into perpetuity. This theme also emphasises the requirement to commit to policies and strategies to manage the interrelationship between business and the natural environment and to invest in 'green infrastructure'. The *Natural Environment* is about enabling outcomes that are both environmentally sustainable and economically sound while seeking innovation in this.

What success looks like:

- Our eco systems are thriving and support native flora and fauna.
- Our streetscapes are highly functional, comfortable and easy to navigate
- Our buildings, businesses, and infrastructure are climate resilient
- Our waste is reduced through ongoing use of recycled materials
- Our region generates local energy
- Our reliance on the River Murray is reduced

Strategies

	Leader 	Service provider 	Partner 	Regulator 	Advocate 
	Strategies				Role
NE1	Support tourism development that sustains the natural environment and systems				
NE2	Design and invest in high quality camping sites, and walking and cycling trails that are sensitive to the natural landscapes that they traverse				
NE3	Design future developments and facilities to support active lifestyles and community health and wellbeing				
NE4	Focus on climate adaptation through a strategic approach to trees, pavement surfaces and green energy.				
NE5	Invest in business opportunities that create circular economy outcomes across water, waste and energy				
NE6	Expand / secure local water supply capacity to support economic development across the region				
NE7	Employ education and policy development to support water savings throughout the community				
NE8	Apply best practice in Cat management				
NE9	Maintain clearly defined townships and manage development to sustain the natural environment				
NE10	Work with emergency services to prepare for disaster management and recovery				

Theme 3



Business

Open for business

The *Business* theme focuses on building strong and influential relationships with others to strengthen and diversify our economy and underpins Council's economic planning and development activities. With a focus on growing the number of local jobs and the number of jobs not dependent on the river, Council is keen to grow the local economy to include a diverse industry base. This theme is also about ensuring infrastructure, planning and investment is in place to support business, attract people to the region, retain quality staff and Elected Members and to capitalise on opportunities. It recognises the benefits to be accrued from both a strong brand and market presence and sharing resources to leverage outcomes.

What success looks like:

- Our region attracts new business
- Our local businesses are important employers
- Our school leavers remain in region
- Our residents have access to reliable and cost-effective utilities
- Our residents and business have access to high speed and reliable broadband Internet and telecommunication systems.
- Our community is satisfied with transparency of processes and decision-making
- Our Elected Members have a diversity of skills and experience
- Our Council is known as an employer of choice
- Our Council sustains and grows the number of visitors (returned and new)
- Our main streets are attractive and vibrant

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Strategies

	<i>Leader</i> 	<i>Service provider</i> 	<i>Partner</i> 	<i>Regulator</i> 	<i>Advocate</i> 
	Strategies				Role
B1	Work with State and Local Government and the RDA to foster and encourage all sizes of business and innovation in business				
B2	Work with partners to attract business not reliant on the river				
B3	Support education and training programs that respond to workforce gaps and innovation				
B4	Enhance resource sharing and regional opportunities with other councils				
B5	Advocate for fast, reliable NBN infrastructure while enhancing Information Communication Technologies (ICT) across the region				
B6	Support economic growth through events				
B7	Facilitate development through appropriate zoning and amend where required				
B8	Support existing business and industry to thrive and grow				
B9	Initiate improvements to infrastructure within townships to enhance amenity for residents and visitors				
B10	Strengthen our brand and market presence				
B11	Employ best practice financial, governance and service methods across Council's work				
B12	Invest in workforce planning and upskilling of staff and provide avenues for employee advancement and professional development				
B13	Invest in upskilling / skill maintenance of Elected Members				
B14	Explore options to automate processes and introduce virtual support / Artificial Intelligence (AI)				
B15	Ensure ongoing compliance with LG Act requirements and processes				