

Eyre and Western Regional Plan Visioning Workshop

Regional plans are designated planning instruments under Section 46 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* and set the long-term vision and direction for strategic planning and land use for the next 15 to 30 years. Regional plans contain clear principles for orderly development and the management of growth within a region. South Australia is split into seven proclaimed planning regions, each have their own separate plan. Regional plans are developed by the Department for Housing and Urban Development (the Department) on behalf of the State Planning Commission, taking a collaborative approach with councils, other government agencies, infrastructure organisations, industry and local communities.

This document reflects the information collected as part of the initial stages of developing the Eyre and Western Regional Plan.

Engagement So Far

To date pre-workshop engagement activities, designed to inform councils, state agencies and key industry representatives, have been conducted by the Department. The Eyre and Western Visioning Workshops were held on 27th (Port Lincoln) and 29th (Ceduna) of March, where representatives from the local councils, key industry organisations, departments and progress associations were present. The workshops were led by the State Planning Commission, Planning and Land Use Services and Department of Premier and Cabinet. 45 key stakeholders were in attendance and provided invaluable knowledge of the Eyre and Western region, by exploring how

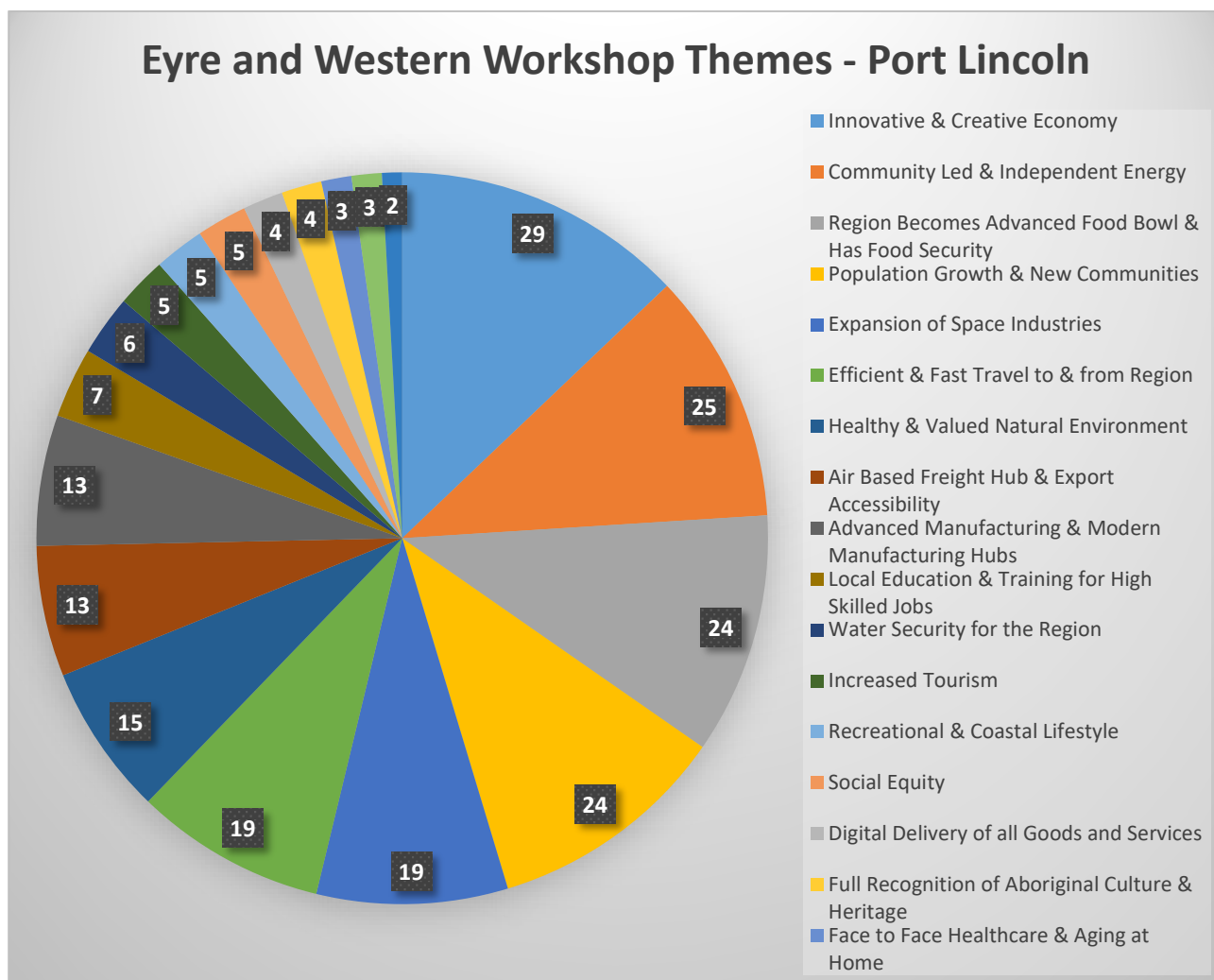
the various communities will be shaped, live, and grow over the next 30 years. The information collected during the Visioning Workshops will play a critical role in shaping the Eyre and Western Regional Plan.



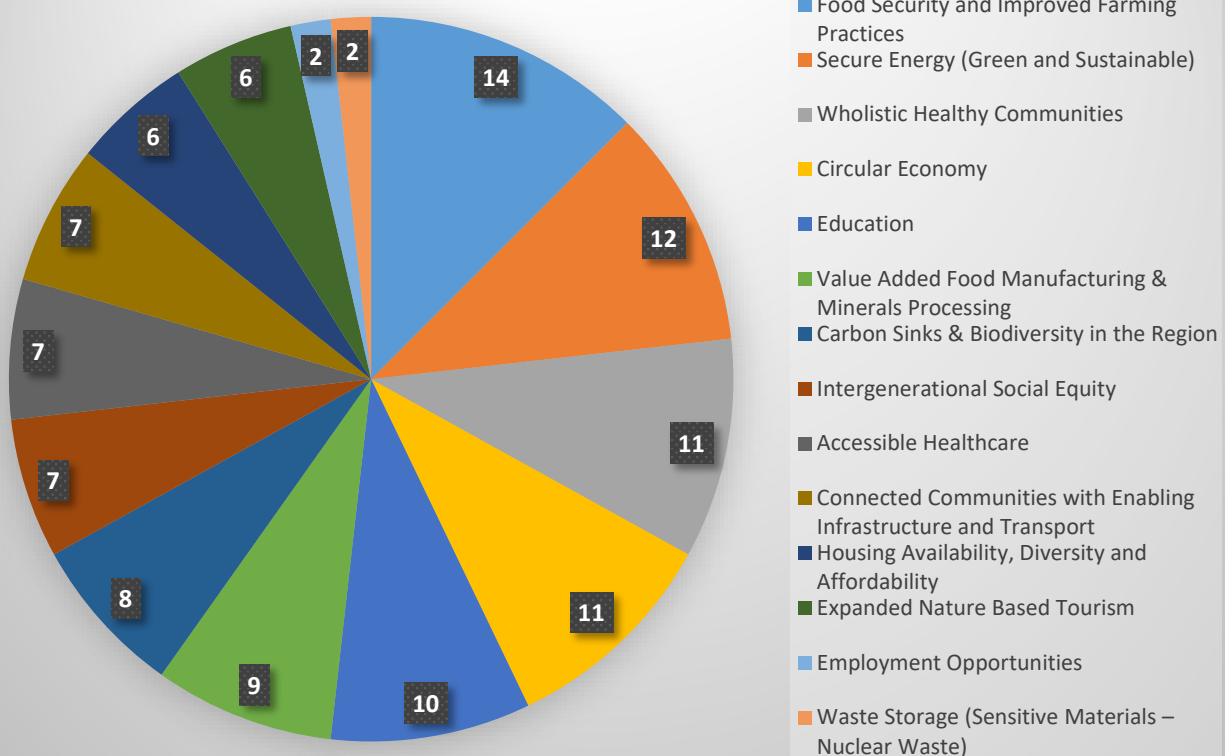
Figure 1: Key stakeholders engaged in the Eyre and Western Visioning Workshop held in Port Lincoln on 27 March.

What We Heard

The Eyre and Western Visioning Workshop participants were asked to identify key vision issues that they felt should be reflected in the Eyre and Western Regional Plan. Each of the vision issues were grouped under themes, as reflected in the pie graph below, and a voting process took place to identify key priority areas.



Eyre and Western Workshop Themes - Ceduna



Workshop participants at the Eyre and Western Visioning Workshop were then asked to consider each vision theme and identify the spatial issues that should be addressed in the Eyre and Western Regional Plan. Further, workshop participants identified a number of “enablers” across the short, medium, and long term that are required to achieve the vision sought for the Eyre and Western region.

Priority themes emerging were

PORT LINCOLN WORKSHOP:

Innovative and Creative Economy

- The region has become a regional powerhouse utilising green and blue energy and assets, allowing for the decarbonisation of the economy. Has become a world leading renewable energy zone and leads the world's hydrogen economy.
- Green and clean initiatives have been implemented creating a renewable, zero waste, circular economy which allows for diverse industries to thrive, not just relying on fishing and agriculture. Waste management is localised within households and all waste water is recycled.
- Existing strengths of the region have been identified and valued, with continued investment in tourist and food, with a strong focus on protecting existing environmental assets.
- High speed rail networks now connect the region to Adelaide and Perth, allowing for increased investment in innovative industries.

Community Led and Independent Energy

- The region has become a world leader in renewable energy production, exporting energy and green hydrogen, supported by great local processing activities.
- Alternative and sustainable fuels now power self-sufficient renewable energy communities with wind farms along the coastline, solar farms and wave energy being harnessed and maintained with skills from the region.
- With the increase in localised renewable energy production, the region has no reliance on overseas energy and oil. Industry and households are now self sufficient with their energy consumption.
- Independent energy production has allowed for electric vehicles and other eco-friendly transport options to boom.

Region Becomes Advanced Food Bowl and Has Food Security

- Zoning allowing for food security, along with agriculture technological advances have allowed for sustainable agriculture practices to produce crops year-round, with the region exporting food nationally and internationally.
- Recognition as industry leaders in sustainable aquaculture practices has strengthened the regions food security and allowed aquaculture industries to thrive and grow.
- A strong focus on increased tree canopy and carbon farming has supported sustainable agriculture initiatives.

Population Growth and New Communities

- An increased migrant population across the region has created diverse communities and helped the skilled workforce grow and develop. The increased financial ability of the region has also attracted young professionals to the region looking to take up employment opportunities.
- The increase in population has led to an increase in greater housing options across the region, with medium and high-density housing becoming more affordable and helping new communities grow.

Expansion of Space Industries

- The Eyre and Western region is a global hub for space technologies and access to space, with the Southern Eyre region becoming the space epicentre of Australia's space industry expansion.
- We see regular launches to the base on the Moon and Mars from Whalers Way.
- Increased space investment and technology advances have allowed for greater transport options across the entire region, but also to major cities across Australia and internationally.

Efficient, Fast Travel to and from Region

- A network of high-speed trains (bulk transport and passenger travel separated) has increased connectivity across the region's communities and townships.

- Fast and economical air travel between towns across the region is high speed and affordable.
- Point to point travel from Whalers Way to London, New York and Tokyo has allowed the region to be accessible to the world.



Figure 2: Key stakeholders engaged in a visioning exercise in Port Lincoln on 27 March.

CEDUNA WORKSHOP:

Food Security and Improved Farming Practices

- Revolutionised farm technology has allowed for greater diversification of agricultural land use. Renewable energy generation and improved farming practices have placed the region as world leaders in the sustainable aquaculture industries.
- Off shore fish farms have increased across the region, while investment in seaweed farming has led to a more plant-based diet.
- Improved farming practices have increased affordability and access to nutritious foods.

Secure Energy (Green and Sustainable)

- The region has secure energy, water and connectivity thanks to infrastructure upgrades and investment in solar and sustainable renewable energy options.
- Energy efficient transport is wide spread with electric vehicles being the standard mode of transport. Re energise stations for trucks have been installed across the region to support extensive travel and freight options.
- Sustainable and environmentally friendly water supply has been created with multiple desalination plants along the coast.

Holistic Healthy Communities

- There is a strong focus on family life, active and healthy communities and club sports opportunities for children and adults, resulting in a stronger sense of place and belonging, for existing and new residents.
- Urban greening plays an important role in the region's townships, creating cooler environments and liveable spaces for families and community to come together and interact.
- Aging in place has become an important as the existing population ages. The health system has adapted to these needs and offers mobile services across the region.
- A shorter work week has been implemented by employers offering for a better work/life balance.

Circular Economy

- Increased recycling has led to a green circular economy boom. Waste management has become resource driven and offers increased employment opportunities with recycling and upcycling depots within all towns.
- Circular recycling of all green material returns nutrients to agriculture, while agricultural waste is used to create aviation biofuel.

Education

- School, universities, and TAFE education hubs are established across the region allowing for greater access to education, with travel times shortened and allowing residents to remain locally within regional areas.
- Childcare options increased to provide greater community connectivity.



Figure 2: Eyre and Western Visioning Workshop held in Ceduna on 29 March 2023

Next Steps

A draft Eyre and Western Regional Plan will be prepared in late 2024, having consideration to the range of feedback received in the initial phase of engagement. Public consultation will be undertaken on the draft regional plan in early 2025 and engagement activities will be developed to support wide-ranging participation by the community and stakeholders. Details of these engagement activities will be developed once the draft Eyre and Western Regional Plan has been prepared.

Contact

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