

Yorke Peninsula & Mid North 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 Yorke & Mid North 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 Yorke Peninsula & Mid North Visioning Workshops were held on the 23rd (Clare) and 24th of February (Maitland), 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 & Cabinet. 54 key stakeholders were in attendance and provided invaluable knowledge of the Yorke Peninsula & Mid North 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 Yorke Peninsula & Mid North Regional Plan.



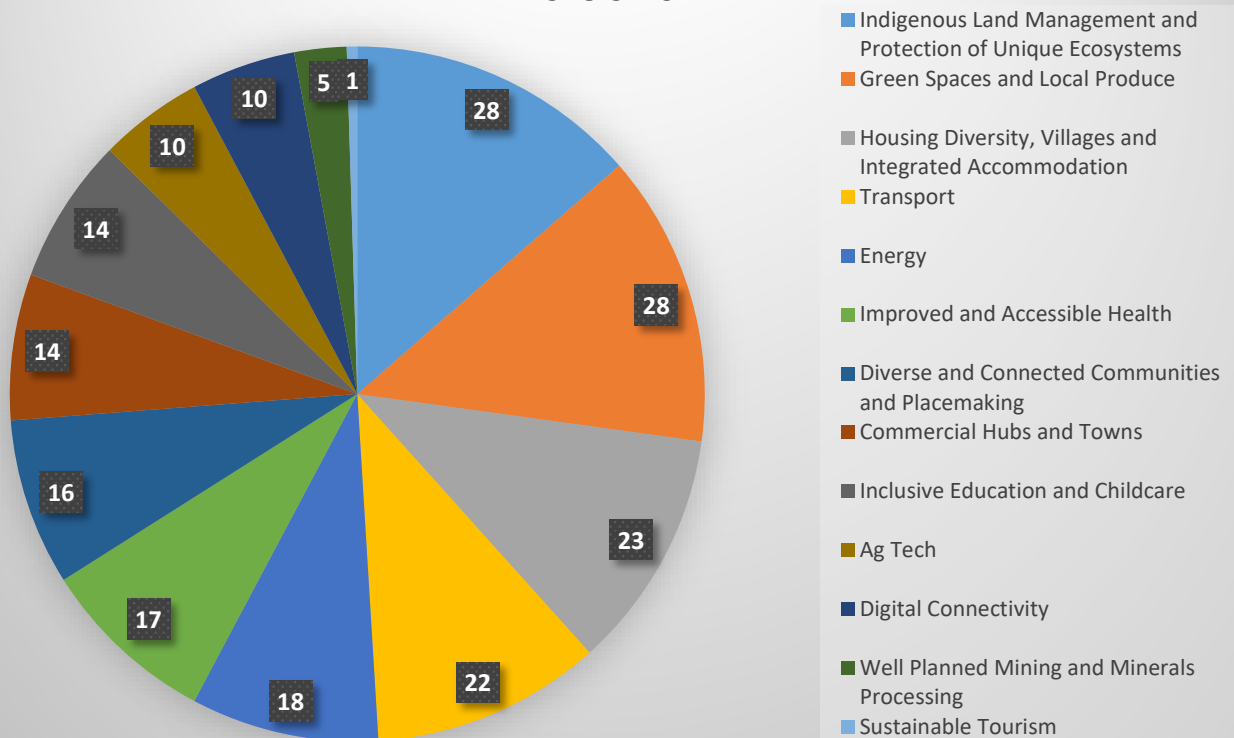
Figure 1: Key stakeholders engaged in the Maitland Visioning Workshop held on 24 February 2023.

What We Heard

Yorke Peninsula & Mid North Visioning Workshop participants were asked to identify key vision issues that they felt should be reflected in the Yorke Peninsula & Mid North 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.



Yorke Peninsula & Mid North Workshop Themes - Maitland



Workshop participants at both Clare and Maitland were then asked to consider each vision theme and identify the spatial issues that should be addressed in the Yorke Peninsula & Mid North 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 Yorke Peninsula & Mid North.

Priority themes emerging were

CLARE WORKSHOP:

Transport

- Faster and more efficient transport for people and products, including electric or hydrogen powered cars, self-driven pods/cars, drones with the increasing use of trains for bulky goods - which results in limited need for road networks.
- Regional public transport available to the community reflecting improved transport routes and electric car power stations available throughout the area.
- Ferry from Adelaide to Yorke Peninsula improving community access and increasing tourism access.
- Clare and Port Pirie are regional centres with recreation facilities and arts and cultural trails.

Biodiversity

- Green corridors throughout the region with increased vegetation, mature trees protected, green corridors via river and creek networks and beautification of streets and waterways.
- Industry accommodated without unduly impacting on broader amenity and farms reforested with less reliance on mono-crops like wheat and Aboriginal land management practices are evident.
- Regional waste composting to reduce waste to landfill and contributing to greener landscapes.

Population, Housing & Decentralisation

- More sustainable homes in safe and environmentally friendly surroundings with public realm maintained and a buffer to Adelaide urban growth, offering a unique country lifestyle and safe housing in bushfire prone areas.
- Towns remain small and intimate and there are enhanced community connections across townships with larger villages and regional service centres, removing the need to go to Adelaide for key services and enabling ageing in place.
- Burra and Moonta recognised as world heritage with townships retaining their history and authenticity as country towns.
- Towns on the Yorke Peninsula are growing reflecting attraction to a clean, green country lifestyle and ease of access to affordable housing.
- Increased employment opportunities with travel across the Gulf of St Vincent being more efficient and accessible to workers.

Energy

- Community generated energy solutions with free renewable power for residents.
- Integrated renewable energy efficiency approaches adopted which are compatible with land use, industry development, environmental management and community expectations.
- Innovative solutions used to store energy coming from offshore wind hydrogen, solar and batteries.

Water Security

- Desalination plants on farms and in each community offering water security to townships and resulting in enhanced revegetation management and increasing habitats across the region.

Agriculture Technology

- Greater balance between natural and farmed landscapes with smaller allotments for rural and food production enhanced by water security practices and adoption of bio technology solutions.

- Increased use of renewable energy on farms and increased intensive agriculture industries and secondary processing plants with Gulf waters protected for sustainable harvest in small sections.



Figure 2: Yorke Peninsula and Mid North Visioning Workshop held at the Clare Town Hall on 23 February 2023

MAITLAND WORKSHOP:

Indigenous Land Management and Protection of Unique Ecosystems

- Protection of native corridors and restoration of ecosystems with unique land areas recognised and protected.
- Coastal preservation practices adopted and swamps utilised for solar farms.

Green Spaces and Local Produce

- Urban townships are protected by enhanced tree canopies protecting biodiversity and addressing the challenges of climate change.
- More tree lined townships and urban areas offering high quality green spaces and enhanced public realm.
- Community gardens for sharing produce is a feature of living in the community and townships.

Housing Diversity, Villages and Integrated Accommodation

- Sustainable housing options available for residents and worker accommodation is integrated into the community through workers in the region for short term projects and regional building programs.
- Residential villages emerge within communities to meet housing needs and demand with vulnerable people receiving safe accommodation in emergencies and to meet ongoing needs.

Transport

- Improved transport options and connections available through a high-speed rail available between Kadina and Adelaide along with other water transport options and improved road networks.
- Autonomous freight “O-Bahn type trucks” using rail corridors for efficiency, safety and flexibility.

Energy

- Innovative powered water solutions adopted with rainwater collected in a communal tank for all homes.
- Renewable energy solutions close to main townships with larger areas with solar farms.
- Hydrogen production and electric fuel stations and energy hubs in the community.

Improved and Accessible Health

- Decentralised hospitals which are self-sustaining through the adoption of energy efficient systems and technologies.
- Equitable access to the best quality health services offering improved health outcomes and utilising technologically advanced medical services in hubs throughout the community.



Figure 2: Yorke Peninsula and Mid North Visioning Workshop held at the Maitland Golf Club on 24 February 2023

Next Steps

A draft Yorke Peninsula & Mid North 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 Yorke Peninsula & Mid North Regional Plan has been prepared.

Contact

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