

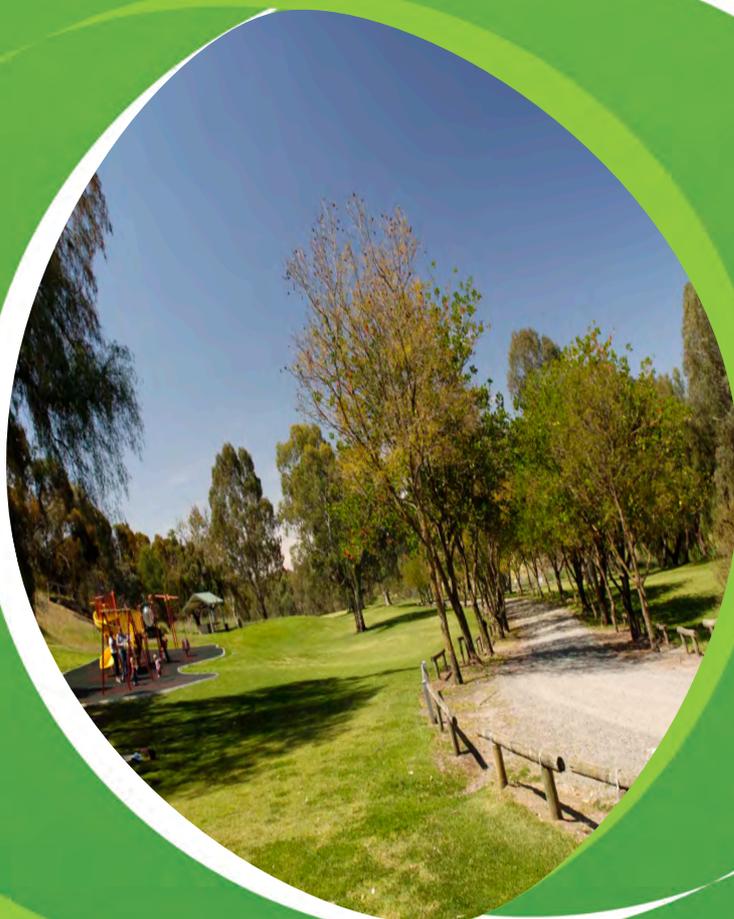
THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MALLALA AND THE STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, REDBANKS ROAD, MALLALA ON MONDAY 11 AUGUST 2014, COMMENCING AT 7:00PM

Separate Cover

Agenda Item 15.2 – Regional Public Health Plan

A Sustainable Region for a Healthy Community

Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region
Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
Part A – The Plan





Healthy Environs Pty Ltd has prepared this Plan for the Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region Public Health Plan Project Team. The Project Team comprises staff representatives from the four regional Councils (The Barossa Council, Town of Gawler, Light Regional Council, District Council of Mallala) and Regional Development Australia Barossa.

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Acknowledgements

We would like to thank representatives of the following organisations for their contribution towards the development of the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan through our Regional Stakeholder Forums:

- *Country North Medicare Local*
- *Northern Adelaide Medicare Local*
- *Department for Health and Ageing (including regional Country Health SA representatives)*
- *Regional Health Advisory Councils*
- *Local Government Association of SA*
- *Department for Planning Transport and Infrastructure*
- *Department for Education and Child Development (Elsie Ey Children's Centre)*
- *Northern Adelaide Waste Management Authority*
- *Barossa Sustainable Environs Committee*

Executive Summary

Councils have a key role in providing supportive environments for their communities to lead healthy lifestyles. The Barossa Council, The Town of Gawler, Light Regional Council and the District Council of Mallala have worked in collaboration with Regional Development Australia (Barossa) to develop this Public Health and Wellbeing Plan for the 'Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region'. The planning process has been an opportunity to collectively identify public health priorities for the region and to establish a coordinated approach to promoting community wellbeing.

The Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan has been developed in accordance with Local Government's responsibilities under the South Australian Public Health Act 2011. The Plan aims to promote better community health through harnessing regional strengths, such as:

- *A quality natural environment.*
- *Quality recreational facilities, open space and trails.*
- *Town character and amenity.*
- *A resilient and active community.*
- *Effective regional collaboration and action across a variety of areas (including open space planning, climate change, community services and emergency management).*

The Plan also considers the key health and wellbeing issues facing the community, including:

- *Areas of social disadvantage.*
- *High school attainment and employment opportunities for youth.*
- *The need to support community involvement and life-long learning for an ageing population.*
- *Chronic disease risk factors in the community including higher levels of obesity and smoking than the metropolitan average.*
- *Smoking levels amongst pregnant women.*
- *The need to address social isolation and promote overall community wellbeing (happiness) through connective communities.*
- *The need to maintain adequate standards of environmental health protection.*

*The Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan adopts a holistic approach to providing supportive social, natural, built and economic environments to support the community to live well. Commitments are outlined for achieving a regional vision of a **'healthy, happy and connected community'**, through:*

- *Promoting community and stakeholder ownership of public health priorities for the region through regional engagement and collaboration.*
- *Supporting the community's capacity to live a healthy lifestyle through community participation, knowledge and support.*

- *Providing a regional environment that protects and improves the community's health through planning, education and regulatory enforcement.*
- *Supporting the health of the community through a thriving economy.*

It is intended that the Plan be integrated with the Strategic Management Plans of each Council. Public health policy commitments will be reviewed every five years in accordance with the SA Public Health Act 2011. Cementing the recommended regional governance structure for the Plan's implementation is a key priority for this initial planning cycle.

1. Introduction

The Barossa Council, the Town of Gawler, Light Regional Council and the District Council of Mallala (which comprise the Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region) have committed to a regional approach towards public health planning. The Councils have led the planning process, with the support of Regional Development Australia (RDA) Barossa and other stakeholders, to improve public health and community wellbeing in the region.

This Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan has been developed to address the requirements of the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*, which establishes a State and Local Government framework for protecting and promoting public health.¹

This is the first Public Health and Wellbeing Plan to be developed at a regional level. The Plan recognises and builds upon regional initiatives already in place to support community health. It aims to set the foundation for ongoing regional collaboration to address local public health priorities and has regard to the priority areas of the State Public Health Plan: *South Australia a Better Place to Live*.² The Plan is presented in 3 Parts:

- **Part A The Plan** – sets the vision, strategic directions and actions for public health and wellbeing.
- **Part B The State of Health** – details the attributes of the region and the research findings for the regional state of health assessment.
- **Part C The Planning Process** – details the process undertaken to develop the Plan.

The four regional Councils have an important role in planning local environments to support a stronger healthier community. The Councils have embraced the planning process as an opportunity to:

- Improve regional collaboration for community health.
- Improve awareness of public health considerations across Council functions.
- Build on Council relationships with key community and government agencies.
- Strengthen Council health protection functions.



This Plan recognises that good health is not only about preventing illness, its about promoting the positive aspects of health and a person’s overall state of wellbeing.

Health is ‘an everyday resource – the capacity to adapt to, respond to, or control life’s challenges and changes’³

‘Public health means the health of individuals in the context of the wider health of the Community’²

2. The Role of the Regional Councils in Public Health

This Plan addresses the role of the four Councils as a ‘Public Health Authority’ under the *SA Public Health Act 2011*. Being identified as a ‘Public Health Authority’ recognises the important role traditionally played by Local Government in public health and the wide range of Council functions which influence community health and wellbeing.

The scope of this first ‘Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan’ for the Barossa Light and Lower Northern Region addresses how the four Councils can influence the social, economic and environmental ‘determinants of health’ within their communities (refer to Appendix A – the spectrum of public health action). The development of the Plan has considered how public health and wellbeing can be integrated with the current roles of the Councils in the following areas:

- **Community development and services for health** – how wellbeing can be influenced through community development functions, community services, social infrastructure and community facilities (such as: libraries and community centres) and arts and cultural events.
- **Physical environments for health** – how the Councils can promote improved public health through: urban planning, asset and infrastructure planning, environmental management and regulatory functions (environmental health, animal management, planning and building).

Importantly, this Plan acknowledges that the Councils do not have sole responsibility for managing public health. A concerted effort across all levels of government is needed to address the health priorities for the region. This Plan provides a platform for recognising the roles of other agencies and for advocating for regional public health needs. The Plan also seeks to complement the responsibility of the health care system for primary prevention and recognises the important role of Local Health Networks (LHNs), Country Health Advisory Councils (HACs) and the Commonwealth funded Medicare Locals in primary prevention and population health.

'Public health planning through the Plan and by Local Councils provides an opportunity for greater partnerships with LHNs and Medicare Locals in situations where there are joint concerns for population health. The Chief Public Health Officer will foster improved partnerships and coordinate opportunities for greater engagement between Councils, LHNs and Medicare Locals where relevant'.²

3. Building a Sustainable Region for a Healthy Community

The Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region Public Health and Wellbeing Plan is presented based on the dimensions of supportive environments for health (community and cultural wellbeing, natural and built environment and economic wellbeing). It also sets strategies for governance and regional partnerships for public health.

Recognising the broader environmental factors which influence public health and wellbeing, the strategic plans of each Council already incorporate a range of objectives which contribute to promoting healthy communities. The key policy elements of the four Council Strategic Plans, relevant to promoting community wellbeing are summarised in Figure 1.^{4,5,6,7}

Figure 1 – Council Commitments for Wellbeing



RDA Barossa recognises ‘health and wellbeing’ as a key priority for economic growth in the region.⁸ The regional roadmap emphasises the importance of a preventative health approach and promoting the benefits of exercise, social interaction, arts and recreation, to support vibrant communities. The provision of health services to meet the demands of a growing population in the region is also a key priority.⁸

RDA Barossa’s vision for the region ‘is enhanced quality of life for all, derived through quality jobs in quality environments: cultural, social, ecological and economic’.⁸

This Plan recognises the following principles of the regional roadmap for enhancing community health and wellbeing:⁸

- Communities and townships are incubators for healthy populations.
- Connected communities thrive.
- Confident communities achieve.
- Innovative communities lead.
- Lives are enhanced by music and art and conviviality.



4. Why Plan for Public Health and Wellbeing?

Through public health planning the region can respond to current and emerging health challenges facing the community.

Councils have traditionally made a substantial contribution to the health of their communities. Immunisation, building and planning standards, food safety and environmental health regulation, have contributed towards protecting the community from disease and improving living conditions.² Public health interventions have contributed to managing the risk of infectious disease in our communities.

‘South Australia in the 21st century still faces significant public health challenges’.² The public health planning process (as required by the *SA Public Health Act 2011*) recognises that we need to maintain effective public health protection systems for the control of infectious diseases as well as address emerging public health issues, such as:

- Increasing chronic disease (those diseases that are related to preventable risk factors, such as diabetes and heart disease).
- New or re-emerging infectious diseases.
- Public health risk factors such as excessive use of tobacco and alcohol.
- The global challenge of climate change and the potential implications on public health.

The Barossa, Gawler, Light and Mallala Councils are committed to comprehensively assessing the ‘State of Health’ of the region and consulting with the community on an on-going basis, to determine the public health priorities to be addressed.⁹ This ‘State of Health’ research will be undertaken with each planning cycle (every five years) to monitor new or emerging issues for the region. The process will draw on supporting data and guidance provided by the South Australian Department for Health (SA Health) and the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA of SA). The Councils will also keep up to date with public health issues for the State as whole, through the State of Public Health for South Australia Report.¹⁰

South Australia in the 21st century still faces significant public health challenges – making sure that infectious diseases are under control through effective immunisation and other prevention programs; remaining vigilant and prepared to respond to new or re-emerging infectious conditions, particularly those that threaten to become pandemics; and dealing with the growing wave of non-communicable conditions that arise out of a range of common risk factors (e.g. overweight and obesity, reduced opportunities for physical activity, overabundant availability of energy-dense, nutrition-poor foods in combination with poor access to nutritious food).²

5. Snapshot of the Region

To inform the development of the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, a State of Health review for the 'Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region' was undertaken (research findings are detailed in the Part B State of Health Report).⁹ A snapshot description of the region and key characteristics to consider for community health and wellbeing is presented in the following sections.^{9,11}

5.1 Our Population

The Barossa, Light and Lower Northern region of Councils has a population of approximately 66,800 and is expected to grow to about 170,000 over the next 30 years.¹² The area has a relatively young population with above average school aged and younger children, above average numbers of people aged between 45 and 64 years and a high proportion of families with children.¹²

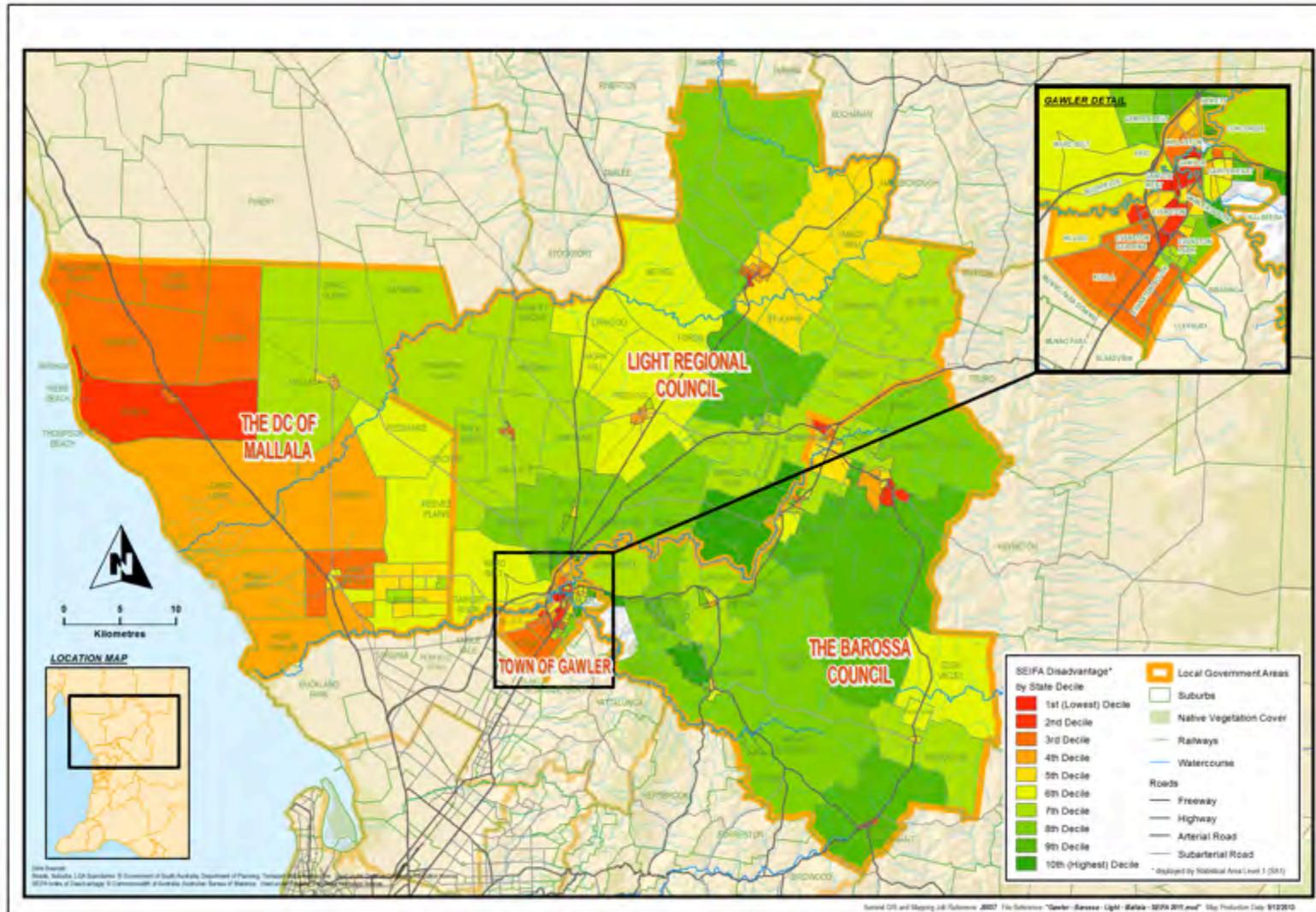
In comparison with the metropolitan area overall, the percentage of residents born overseas is small. The proportion of the population born in Italy is highest in the District Council of Mallala (0.8%).¹³ Other populations represented include India and China but in much lower numbers compared to the metropolitan area. A small proportion (0.3%) of the overseas-born population reported in 2011 that they had poor proficiency in English and there was little variation across the region.¹³

The proportion of Aboriginal people living in the region is smaller than the metropolitan area. Within the region, the highest proportion of Aboriginal people live in the District Council of Mallala.¹³

The Index of Relative Social Disadvantage (IRSD) measures the relative level of socio-economic disadvantage based on a range of Census characteristics. Overall, Mallala and Gawler Councils have greater areas of disadvantage. Small areas of disadvantage exist within the Light and Barossa Council areas (as shown in Figure 2).¹³



Figure 2 – Index of Social Disadvantage



5.2 Our Community and Culture

Our Community's Strengths and Challenges for Health and Wellbeing

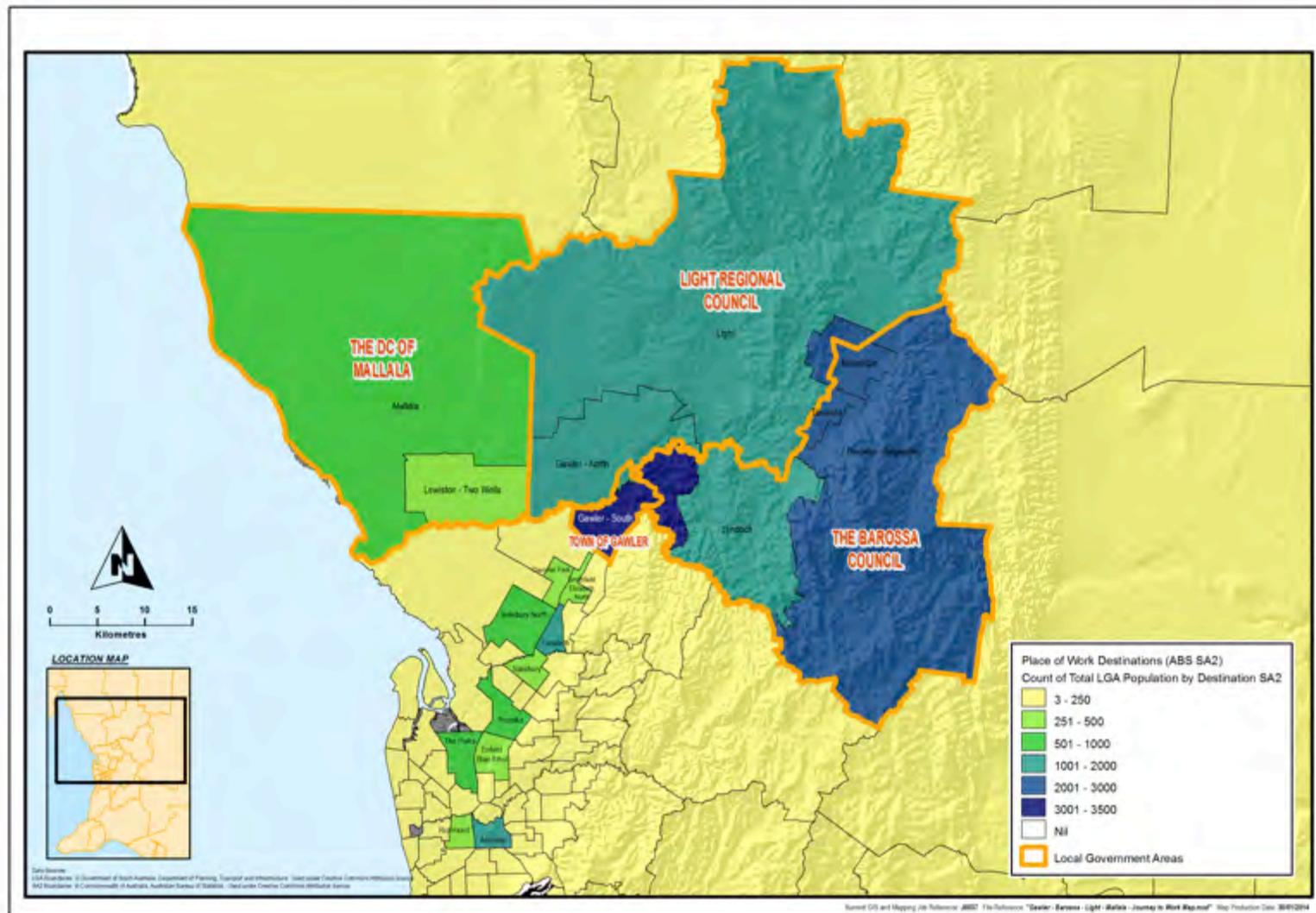
- Our community feels supported – the majority of people in the region consider that they are 'able to get support in times of crisis' (92.2%).¹³
- We have many active volunteers – 18% (Mallala), 19% (Gawler), 27% (Barossa).¹⁴
- A high number of residents access resources through regional libraries - 38,768 library memberships across the region.
- The region has a strong arts, culture and events focus.
- We have a lower percentage of young people in the region in full-time secondary education compared to metropolitan Adelaide - 13.9% compared to 16.2%.¹³
- A high percentage of our community care for others - 12.2% of the regional population provides unpaid assistance to persons with a disability.¹³
- There are chronic disease risk factors in the community¹³ –
 - The smoking rate (adults smoking on a daily basis) in the region was estimated at 21.1%, which was higher than the metropolitan average of 18.9%.
 - The estimated obesity rate for males in the region was 18.1%, which was above the metropolitan area overall (17.3%). The LGAs of Mallala and Gawler both had the highest estimated obesity rate in the region of 20.1%.
 - The extent of physical inactivity among the adult population in the region (35.4% of the adult population) was consistent with the estimated rate in the metropolitan area (35.1%). Mallala was the only area with a higher rate of 37.2%.
- There are childhood health risk factors in the community:¹³
 - During 2008 to 2010, 15.7% of women in the region reported smoking during their pregnancy. This was above the metropolitan average rate of 13.0%.
 - The proportion of children in the region who were fully immunised at five years (2011 to 2012) of age was 90.9%. The lowest proportion was in Mallala Council (87.2%).
- Our region requires adequate access to health services¹³
 - The rate of children aged 0-19 years who were clients of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (based on 2008 to 2010 data) was higher than the metropolitan area (particularly in Gawler and Mallala).
 - People in our region (aged 18 years and over) perceive they have difficulty accessing health services.
 - Health and community services in the region need to meet the demands of a growing and ageing population profile.

5.3 Our Economy

Our Economic Strengths and Challenges for Health and Wellbeing

- We have diverse industries within our region incorporating livestock and horticulture production, grain production and permaculture and world-renowned wine, food production and tourism.⁸
- We have various projects underway to revitalise our main streets and town centres including: the Nurioopta Place Making Project, the Greenock Main Street Project, Kapunda Event Space Infrastructure, Murray Street upgrade in Gawler and the Two Wells town centre re-development.
- Higher-speed fixed wireless internet services and satellite infrastructure is planned for most of the region.
- The top five employment sectors in the region in 2012 were manufacturing, retail trade, agriculture, forestry and fishing, health and community services and education and training.
- In 2011, the proportion of 15 to 19 year olds in the region engaged in full time work or study was 80.5%, comparable to that in the metropolitan area overall (80.9%).¹³
- Figure 3 illustrates the location of employment for all residents in the region who are above 15 years of age. The City of Adelaide and the suburb of Elizabeth are the most common employment destinations outside of the region.

Figure 3 – Place of Work Destinations (for people living in the region above 15)



5.4 Our Natural and Built Environment

Our Environmental Strengths and Challenges for Health and Wellbeing

- Significant urban development and population growth is proposed for the region. This needs to be planned in a manner, which protects the natural and built character of the region and premium farming land.
- Recent demand growth has reduced housing affordability in the region. In 2011 the level of rental stress was also above the metropolitan average with 27.2% of low income families in this category (30.9% in the LGA of Gawler).¹³
- Concern has been raised regarding isolation of residents and difficulty in accessing services caused by limited transport options, particularly for public transport. North-south transport links are considered reasonable but east-west linkages are poor.
- Population growth projected to 2036 indicates that open space at its current levels will fall below the benchmark for each Council apart from Mallala and reinforces the need for Councils to prepare and implement policy that will support the retention of 9 hectares as minimum provision.¹²
- The region offers a network of local cycling and walking trails, the majority of which are in the Barossa Council area.
- There are a range of priorities recognised for protecting and enhancing natural resources in the region, incorporating: biodiversity management, water resource management, protection of remnant vegetation, catchment management, climate change adaption and coastal protection.
- There are potential direct and indirect social and public health impacts on the region resulting from forecasted climate change (forecasted increase in temperature, reduced rainfall and sea level rise).¹⁵
- The region needs to be prepared for potential emergency events such as bushfires, flooding, extreme weather, fuel and electricity shortages, animal and plants diseases and public health risks (human epidemic/pandemic and food and drinking water contamination).
- Preserving clean and green food production in the region is important for sustaining the food production sector and associated tourism. In 2012/13 Councils regulated food safety standards across 732 food businesses in the region.
- Infrastructure for water distribution and re-use is critical to the development of the region. Major projects such as the Gawler River Water Project are of key importance. Safe wastewater management and re-use through Council wastewater management schemes needs to be managed. Council regulation of on-site wastewater systems is a significant activity for the rural Councils in the region, with 491 applications assessed in 2012/13.

- Councils support public health through the provision of regular waste management services. In 2012/13 the region disposed of 12,585 tonnes of waste to landfill and recycled 8,889 tonnes of recyclable and green organic material from kerbside collection services. The region is experiencing increasing incidents of illegal dumping.

6. Our Vision for a Healthy Community

6.1 Vision

The Barossa, Light, Gawler and Mallala Councils seek to build partnerships to achieve our vision of a:

'A healthy, happy and connected community'.

6.2 Priority Areas and Mission

Our priority areas are:

1. A Regional Framework for Public Health

Our mission is to promote community and stakeholder ownership of public health priorities for the region through regional engagement and collaboration.

2. Community and Cultural Wellbeing

Our mission is to support our community's capacity to live a healthy lifestyle through community participation, knowledge and support.

3. Natural and Built Environment

Our mission is to provide a regional environment that protects and improves the community's health through planning, education and regulatory enforcement.

4. Economic Wellbeing

Our mission is to support the health of our community through a thriving economy.

6.3 Our Measures of Success

Our measures of success will be monitored through our State of Health research which is undertaken every five years as required by the *SA Public Health Act 2011*. These measures may be:

- directly **controlled** through Council functions;
- **influenced** through collaboration with other organisations; or
- addressed through **advocacy** for action by relevant organisations.

Our proposed measures of success for public health and wellbeing are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1 – Measures of Success

Priority Area	Measure of Success
1. A Regional Framework for Public Health	1.1 Stakeholder involvement in the implementation and reporting on the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan beyond Councils
2. Community and Cultural Wellbeing (refer Section 5.2 of the State of Health Report)	2.1 Increased levels of community participation in: Council services (facilities, programs and projects), volunteering and Council engagement.
	2.2 An increased percentage of children are fully immunised at five years.
	2.3 Councils have implemented policies for smoke free community events.
	2.4 The community considers they have adequate access to community and health services.
3. Economic Wellbeing (refer to Section 5.3 of the State of Health Report)	3.1 There is increased diversity of economic sectors across the region.
	3.2 Levels of employment across age groups are maintained or improved.
4. Natural and Built Environment (refer to Section 5.4 of the State of Health Report)	4.1 There is increased housing choice and affordability.
	4.2 Implementation of priority recommendations in regional and local Open Space and Recreation Plans.
	4.3 Waste disposed to landfill is reduced.
	4.4 There are reduced incidents of illegal dumping.
	4.5 Measures are in place to protect the region's built heritage and natural environment.
	4.6 Councils are meeting internal performance measures for relevant safety and public health enforcement: complaint investigation, inspection frequencies and permitting activities

Note: Our measures of success will be monitored through our State of Health research assessments undertaken every five years. The first assessment was completed in 2014. The results are summarised in the Part B State of Health Report.

6.4 Key Principles

This Plan is underpinned by a number of principles and approaches (as referenced in the *SA Public Health Act 2011*):¹

Precautionary Principle	We will adopt a precautionary approach to managing public health risks.
Sustainability principle	Our focus is on the promotion of regional social, economic and environmental sustainability to support good health.
Prevention principle	We will support pro-active intervention to prevent health conditions in the community.
Population focus	The focus of this Plan is on the broader health of the population as a whole, with a consideration of vulnerable groups in the region.
Equity principle	We will consider the health disparities between groups within our community. Our focus will be to support equitable benefits and services across the regional population.
Partnership	We recognise that addressing health priorities for the region requires involvement across a range of sectors and stakeholders.

7. Strategic Directions for Health and Wellbeing

The Barossa, Light, Gawler and Mallala Councils are adopting an integrated approach to achieving our vision of a **'healthy, happy and connected community'**. Our strategic directions consider the aspects of our region's social, economic and natural and built environment which support the health of our community. Our commitments to promoting public health and wellbeing focus on the four priority areas:

1. A Regional Framework for Public Health
2. Community and Cultural Wellbeing
3. Natural and Built Environment
4. Economic Wellbeing

For each commitment area, references to Council strategic plan priorities and relevant regional and State strategies are highlighted.

References to the following Strategic Priority (SP) themes of the State Public Health Plan: A Better Place to Live' are also provided: ²

- Strategic Priority 1 – Stronger and Healthier Communities and Neighbourhoods for All Generations
- Strategic Priority 2 – Increasing Opportunities for Healthy Living, Healthy Eating and Being Active
- Strategic Priority 3 – Preparing for Climate Change
- Strategic Priority 4 – Sustaining and Improving Public and Environmental Health Protection

The following rating system has been used to guide the Public Health Project Team in implementing and managing each commitment:

Status Ratings for Implementation and Management Commitments

★	This commitment area is adequately addressed through other Council or regional projects and strategies. It is recommended that the Public Health Project Team monitor progress of these initiatives in consultation with the relevant Project Managers.
★★	Further development is needed to integrate public health considerations into existing processes, projects or strategies. This integration needs to be guided by the Public Health Project Team.
★★★	This is a new strategy or project to be implemented and coordinated through the Public Health Project Team.

7.1 The Role of Councils

Developing a Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan enables Council, stakeholder organisations and residents to develop a shared understanding of the health and wellbeing priorities for the region. Councils have a range of roles (highlighted below) and cannot act alone to address all of the commitments outlined in the Plan. Councils can recognise and support community driven action, work in partnership with other organisations as well as advocate for funding, policy and programs at the State and Federal level. The Barossa, Light, Gawler and Mallala Councils can also aim to ensure that their organisational processes, policies and programs consider public health and wellbeing.

The range of Council roles in achieving the commitments outlined in the Plan can be summarised as follows: ¹⁶

- **Service Provider**
 - Direct – Responsible for funding and providing a service to the community.
 - Partner – Contributes funds and/or other resources towards a service or initiative that is delivered in partnership with other organisations.
 - Agent – Provides a service funded by or on behalf of others which involves hosting or other use of Council resources to fill particular needs in the community.
- **Regulator** – Required by legislation to fulfill a particular role or function in the interest of the public. This requires Council to perform/discharge statutory powers, functions and duties.
- **Owner custodian** – Council owns and/or manages public infrastructure, community facilities, reserves, parks and gardens.
- **Advocator** – Represents the interests of the local community, by lobbying other tiers of government and the private sector for improved services and amenities.
- **Facilitator** – brings together or connects people and groups to pursue issues, opportunities or shared interests.
- **Leader** – Provides leadership and guidance to the community in the pursuit of various goals and opportunities.

Note: Some commitments may require a combination of Council roles and approaches.

7.2 Regional Stakeholders for Health and Wellbeing

The Barossa, Light, Gawler and Mallala Councils recognise the important role of a range of government and community stakeholders in influencing public health in the region. As part of the planning process, Regional Stakeholder Consultation Forums were held to discuss key issues, current initiatives and opportunities for promoting health in the region. The organisations represented at the Regional Forums are listed in Appendix B (further detail of the planning process is provided in the Part C Planning Process Report).

This Plan identifies a range of stakeholders for the priority areas (Sections 7.3 to 7.6). Most of these organisations already work collaboratively with the Councils on current initiatives. For new projects and strategies, the Public Health Project Team will undertake further consultation with relevant stakeholders regarding opportunities and roles for the Plan's implementation.

7.3 A Regional Framework for Public Health

‘The protection and promotion of public health requires collaboration and in many cases, joint action across various sectors and levels of government and the community’.²

There is significant commitment and work already underway in the region for community health. However, there is opportunity to more effectively deliver initiatives through collaboration across agencies, information sharing and providing further support for community driven action.

Our mission is to promote community and stakeholder ownership of public health priorities for the region through community engagement and regional collaboration.

Our Stakeholders - RDA Barossa, LGA of SA, SA Health: Country Health SA (Barossa, Hills, Fleurieu Region), Country North SA Medicare Local and Northern Adelaide Medicare Local.

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
1. Regional Partnerships for Public Health			
1.1 Maintain a partnership across the four regional Councils to oversee the Plan implementation	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue the Regional Public Health Planning Project Team (comprising representatives of the four Councils) Nominate a Public Health Planning representative 	<p>Local</p> <p>Gawler Strategic Plan – Strategic Direction (SD) 5.</p>
1.2 Build on regional stakeholder partnerships for public health	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Stakeholder Reference Group for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing advice to Councils (meetings quarterly) Consultation and involvement on the Regional Public Health Plan initiatives Development of an Implementation Plan outlining stakeholder roles Contribution towards biennial public health plan reporting On-line/electronic discussion forum Liaise with Medicare Local Health Clusters and HACs which apply to the region Liaise with SA Health regarding ‘public health partner authority’ 	<p>Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Area 4</p> <p>Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 5</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Section 2</p> <p>Regional</p> <p>RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Health and Wellbeing</i></p> <p>State - SA: A Better Place to Live - <i>System Building Actions</i></p>

☆☆ = Adequately addressed ☆☆☆ = Further development required ☆☆☆☆ = New initiative

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
		opportunities of relevance to the region	
1.3 Assess opportunities for regional Council service delivery and programs	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue current regional Council programs across climate change, community services, youth development, home and community care. Establish a regional Environmental Health Officers network to review approaches towards: enforcement procedures, squalor committee, immunisation services 	

☆ = Adequately addressed ☆☆ = Further development required ☆☆☆ = New initiative

7.4 Community and Cultural Wellbeing

Levels of social support, social exclusion and poor social and economic circumstances are recognised as key factors, which can affect health.¹⁵ Local government can play a key role in providing the social infrastructure, opportunities for social interaction and cultural recognition, which contribute to community health and wellbeing.

Our mission is to support our community's capacity to live a healthy lifestyle through participation, knowledge and support.

Our Stakeholders – RDA Barossa, LGA of SA, SA Health: Country Health SA (Barossa, Hills, Fleurieu Region) and the Immunisation Section, Volunteers SA, Country North SA Medicare Local, Northern Adelaide Medicare Local, Libraries SA, Barossa Area Health Service Medical Staff Society.

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
2. Supporting Capacity for Health			
2.1 Support current programs for youth education and employment in the region	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate and raise awareness for youth education support programs in the region (such as Innovative Community Action Networks (ICAN Barossa)) Implement youth recognition/awards for educational achievements Implement early childhood literacy programs in libraries 	<p>Local – Gawler Strategic Plan - SD 5 Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Area 4</p>
2.2 Promote life-long learning opportunities through Council libraries	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote library education resources to the community Advocate for educational facilities in the region (in collaboration with the RDA) Advocate for high-speed internet access in the region (in collaboration with the RDA) Continue to implement lifestyle programs at community centres 	<p>Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 5 Light Strategic Plan – Section 2</p> <p>Regional – RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Health and Wellbeing</i></p> <p>State - SA: A Better Place to Live: <i>System Building Actions</i></p>
3. Promoting Community Strengths			
3.1 Encourage community participation across all ages and abilities	★★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake community engagement on Council projects and policies Encourage community participation on committees Actively promote youth participation Develop Council policies to encourage accessible engagement and information (consider target groups: Aboriginal people, new arrivals and people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds) 	<p>Local Gawler Strategic Plan – Strategic Directions 3 & 5. Barossa Strategic Plan– Focus Areas 1 and 4.</p>

★ = Adequately addressed ★★ = Further development required ★★★ = New initiative

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage community participation in managing Council facilities where appropriate (such as via incorporated bodies). 	<p>Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Focus Areas 2 and 3</p> <p>Regional</p> <p>RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Health and Wellbeing</i></p> <p>State</p> <p>SA: A Better Place to Live - SP 1.</p> <p>SA’s Communities for All. Volunteering Strategy for SA</p>
3.2 Promote social interaction and wellbeing through activities, events and places	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support community events Integrate cultural/arts planning in main street and precinct development Establish community focal points (e.g. Lewiston) Promote regional tourism Promote participation from people of all ages and abilities. 	
3.3 Support and recognise the contribution of community groups, volunteers and careers in our community	☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote current volunteer programs (Council and external) Promote current volunteer resource centres Support volunteer events Provide carer support programs 	
4. Community Services and Support for Healthy Living			
4.1 Advocate for equitable access to health information and support programs for our community	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate access to information regarding available regional health services and community support programs (in partnership with Country Health SA and Medicare Locals) Promote awareness of Council community support programs through relevant stakeholders (Country Health SA, Medicare Locals) Support regional partnerships (with the Health Service Sector) to facilitate exchange of information regarding services and community development programs to address chronic disease risk factors (smoking, obesity, physical inactivity, smoking during pregnancy as well as mental health and family support programs). Advocate and support partnerships for adequate support for vulnerable children and their families and raise awareness of available support programs Explore funding opportunities for partnership programs to address risk areas: obesity (e.g. Obesity Prevention and Active Living (OPAL), physical inactivity, smoking, alcohol consumption. Continue support for the following current regional initiatives/networks, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barossa, Gawler, Light Mental Health Group SPOKE Barossa (Network of Community Service Providers) Regional Home and Community Care (HACC) Program Medicare Local ‘closing the gap’ initiatives for Aboriginal residents 	<p>Local</p> <p>Gawler Strategic Plan - Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p> <p>Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Areas 1, 2 and 4.</p> <p>Mallala Strategic Plan– Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Section 3</p> <p>Regional</p> <p>RDA Roadmap 2013-2016. Priorities: <i>Health and Wellbeing</i></p> <p>State</p> <p>SA: A Better Place to Live - SP 2 and SP 3</p> <p>South Australian Tobacco Control Strategy 2011-2016</p> <p>South Australian Alcohol and Other Drug Strategy 2011-2016</p>

☆ = Adequately addressed ☆☆ = Further development required ☆☆☆ = New initiative

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
4.2 Support corporate initiatives which encourage healthy choices for staff and the community	☆☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Council workplace policies for healthy eating and encouraging physical activity Develop a healthy catering policy for Council functions and events Provide breastfeeding friendly facilities at key Council venues Develop and implement policies for smoke-free community events Provide a workplace immunisation program Promote food safety and hygiene at Council venues 	<p>Aboriginal Health Care Plan 2010-2016</p> <p>Eat Well be Active Strategy 2011-2016</p> <p>Chronic Disease Action Plan for SA 2009-2018</p>
4.3 Support the provision of accessible childhood, school and other community immunisation services across the region to achieve target vaccination rates	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate a regional model to integrate Councils existing, independent immunisation services with consideration of: existing (and pending) service agreements; current accessibility; service and fiscal improvements Promote key SA Health immunisation awareness programs: Big Help for Little Adventurers 	LGA of SA & SA Health Immunisation Memorandum of Understanding (Draft)
4.4 Advocate for health services to meet the needs of a growing and ageing population profile	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate with RDA Barossa for adequate health facilities and services in the region Advocate for broadband roll-out and utilisation by the health sector Provide a Development Policy framework which enables consideration of social infrastructure requirements, accessible housing and aged accommodation 	
4.5 Liaise with the health service sector regarding planning for regional climate change vulnerability	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness of the Central LGA vulnerability assessment findings with the health care sector Promote adaptation planning by the regional health care sector (through current regional adaptation planning) 	

☆☆ = Adequately addressed ☆☆☆ = Further development required ☆☆☆☆ = New initiative

7.5 Natural and Built Environment

Councils have the potential to plan urban environments and infrastructure to facilitate physical activity, access and community connectedness. The physical and mental health benefits of access to the natural environment and green spaces are well documented.¹⁵ The Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Councils can embrace the opportunity to integrate health considerations into the significant urban development projects planned for the region. The potential public health impacts of climate change on the region also need to be considered. Council functions across environmental health, waste management, food safety and emergency management, are critical to promoting safe, aesthetic environments in which communicable diseases are controlled.

Our mission is to provide a regional environment that protects and improves the community’s health through planning, education and regulatory enforcement.

Our Stakeholders - Barossa RDA, LGA, Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management (AMLR NRM) Board, Conservation Volunteers Australia, Office for Recreation and Sport, Developers, Heart Foundation, SA Health: Country Health SA (Barossa, Hills, Fleurieu Region), Health Protection and the Immunisation Section, Volunteers SA, Country North SA Medicare Local, Northern Adelaide Medicare Local, Zero Waste SA, KESAB, Environment Protection Authority, Department for Premier and Cabinet, Environmental Health Australia.

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
5. Planning Environments Supportive to Wellbeing			
5.1 Provide facilities and infrastructure to promote recreation and physical activity in priority locations	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the ‘Regional Open Space and Public Realm Strategy. Continue to maintain and upgrade local recreation and sporting facilities in line with Council strategies and plans. 	<p>Local</p> <p>Gawler Strategic Plan – Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p> <p>Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Areas 1 and 2</p> <p>Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Section 3</p>
5.2 Consider public health and wellbeing through urban planning projects and policies	★★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with developers to incorporate: ‘Healthy by design’, green infrastructure and water sensitive urban design guidelines into key regional urban development projects. Incorporate ‘Healthy by design’ arts and cultural planning into re-developments of key precincts. Advocate for incorporation of ‘healthy by design’ policies into State level planning reforms and modules. 	<p>Regional</p> <p>RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Infrastructure for Sustainable Populations</i></p>

★ = Adequately addressed ★★ = Further development required ★★★ = New initiative

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide training for planning, engineering and asset management staff in health in planning principles, including ¹⁸⁻²³: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Healthy by design' guidelines - Healthy by Design SA (National Heart Foundation of Australia, 2012) CHES (Connected, Healthy Eating, Supportive and Sustainable) development principles Age and child friendly design – SA Health Age Friendly Guidelines 	AMLR NRM Board Plan: Northern Coast and Plains Northern Hills State SA: A Better Place to Live - SP 1. 30 Year Plan For Greater Adelaide Green Infrastructure Strategy The People and Parks Strategy
5.3 Promote, protect and enhance the region's natural environment	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to partner with the NRM Board in regional natural resource management projects (<i>all</i>) Implement Council sustainability and environmental management plans (<i>all</i>) Promote co-planning of biodiversity protection and infrastructure for physical recreation in the region: trails, nature-based tourism (<i>all</i>) Continue partnership programs with the AMLR NRM Board for catchment management, vegetation management and coastal protection (<i>Mallala Council</i>) Ensure roadside vegetation protection through marking and Council works procedures (<i>rural Councils</i>) Undertake programs to protect coastal vegetation from recreational activities (motor-bike riding, vehicles) (<i>Mallala Council</i>) 	
6. Accessibility for All			
6.1 Plan and advocate for accessible transport across the region	★★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide community transport services in partnership with other community stakeholders Review community transport services to cater for key needs: remote areas, needs groups, east-west linkages Investigate a regional youth transport/mobile health service Advocate for transport services and infrastructure to meet population growth demand and East-West transport gaps 	Local Gawler Strategic Plan - Strategic Directions 3 and 5. Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Areas 2, 1 and 4 Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 1 Light Strategic Plan – Sections 2 and 3
6.2 Support accessibility for all through Council services and facilities	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Council Disability Discrimination Act Plans Investigate the opportunity for a regional Disability Discrimination Act Plan Integrate access considerations into urban, asset and community planning 	Regional RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Health and Wellbeing</i>

★ = Adequately addressed ★★ = Further development required ★★★ = New initiative

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
			<p>State</p> <p>SA: A Better Place to Live - SP 1.</p> <p>SA's Communities for All.</p>
7. Safe and Affordable Housing			
7.1 Promote affordable and diverse housing choices	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commit to SA targets for affordable housing provision in new urban developments 	<p>Local</p> <p>Gawler Strategic Plan - Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p> <p>Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Areas 1, 2 and 4</p>
7.2 Enforce safe and healthy housing conditions	★★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforce housing safety and living standards through the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Development Act 1993</i> - e.g. building standards, fire and swimming pool safety <i>SA Public Health Act 2011</i> – new domestic squalor policy <i>Local Government Act 1999</i>- fit for habitation <i>Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005</i> Establish a regional forum for the Public Health (Severe Domestic Squalor) Policy 	<p>Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Sections 2 & 3</p> <p>Regional - RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Health and Wellbeing</i></p> <p>State</p> <p>SA: A Better Place to Live - SP 1 and SP 4.</p> <p>30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide</p>
8. A Sustainable Environment for Health			
8.1 Plan for regional water security	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote water recycling (Revision 2045 Project) and minimisation Promote regional water re-use projects e.g. the Greater Gawler Water Re-use Project 	<p>Local</p> <p>Gawler – Strategic Plan Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p> <p>Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Areas 1.2 and 4</p>
8.2 Minimise energy and resource use in the region	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support ongoing research and partnerships with industry in the region (Sustainable Environs Committee) Implement energy use reduction for Council facilities and infrastructure 	<p>Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Sections 2 and 3</p>
8.3 Reduce waste generation and illegal dumping	★★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a regional strategy for waste management and recycling Implement specific waste management programs: Agricultural waste management, electronic waste Undertake illegal dumping surveillance and prevention trials 	<p>Regional</p> <p>RDA Barossa Roadmap Priorities: <i>Health and Wellbeing</i></p> <p>Central LGA Waste Management Strategy</p>

★ = Adequately addressed ★★ = Further development required ★★★ = New initiative

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
			<p>State</p> <p>SA: A Better Place to Live - SP 1 and SP 4.</p> <p>South Australia's Waste Strategy</p> <p>Water for Good</p>
9. Environmental Health Protection			
9.1 Maintain effective public health enforcement standards for the management of communicable diseases	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop regional public and environmental health performance standards (in consultation with SA Health) Explore regional shared service approaches to: environmental health education for common issues (e.g. food safety, wastewater management) and certain services (e.g. immunisation) Adopt standardised enforcement policies and procedures Adopt Council based customer response targets Provide education and training on new legislative requirements 	<p>Local –</p> <p>Gawler Strategic Plan – Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p> <p>Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Areas 1, 2 and 4</p> <p>Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Sections 2 and 3</p> <p>Regional - RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Health and Wellbeing</i></p> <p>State</p> <p>SA: A Better Place to Live - SP 4.</p>
9.2 Address environmental protection and nuisance such as odour, dust air quality and noise	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforce animal keeping policies (animal husbandry zone) Implement Council road maintenance programs (to address dust from unsealed roads) Undertake environmental education and enforcement for building and construction industry Consider urban planning measures to address interface issues between residential areas and regional industries (agriculture) 	
10. Preparing for the Public Health Impacts of Climate Change			
10.1 Plan for potential public health risks associated with climatic changes and extreme weather events in the region	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate public health considerations in emergency management planning Tailor adaptation measures for vulnerable groups in the community (ageing, disabled, farming sector, coastal communities) Plan climate change adaptation with key sectors: agricultural, health, primary production, animal husbandry Undertake adaptation planning for coastal communities Undertake surveillance of potential changes to environmental health conditions in the region (mosquito breeding, food production and safety, on-site water reuse and evaporative cooling) Consider potential climate change impacts to regional public health infrastructure: stormwater and wastewater treatment schemes. 	<p>Local</p> <p>Gawler Strategic Plan – Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p> <p>Barossa Strategic Plan – Focus Areas 1, 2 and 4</p> <p>Mallala Strategic Plan – Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Sections 2 and 3</p>

☆☆ = Adequately addressed ☆☆☆ = Further development required ☆☆☆☆ = New initiative

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
			<p>Regional RDA Barossa Climate Adaptation Strategy (in progress). RDA SA Barossa Region Sector Agreement 2001</p> <p>State SA: A Better Place to Live - SP 3. Climate Change Adaptation Framework for SA</p>

★ = Adequately addressed ★★ = Further development required ★★★ = New initiative

7.6 Economic Wellbeing

The World Health Organisation identifies the social gradient, stress, work conditions and employment as key social determinants where action can be taken to address health. Economic conditions are not only an important determinant of health, conversely there is evidence that investing in a healthy population brings benefits to the economy. This has been recognised by RDA Barossa who have identified 'health and wellbeing' as a key priority to support economic growth in the region.

Our mission is to support the health of our community through a thriving economy.

Our Stakeholders: RDA Barossa, Department for Planning, Transport & Infrastructure, Northern Connections, Northern Adelaide Regional Collaboration, Northern Adelaide Councils (Salisbury and Playford), Barossa Tourism, Yorke Tourism.

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
11. Diverse Employment Opportunities			
11.1 Work with key stakeholders to diversify the regional economic base	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue partnership with RDA Barossa to implement Regional Roadmap priorities for economic diversification 	<p>Local</p> <p>Gawler Strategic Plan – Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p>
11.2 Support local employment opportunities	★★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue support for RDA youth and community employment programs. Review Council policies to support youth employment/work experience opportunities. Participate in the Northern Adelaide Regional Collaboration (NARC) to build workforce opportunities for northern Adelaide 	<p>Barossa Strategic Plan– Focus Areas 1 and 2</p> <p>Mallala Strategic Plan– Goal 1</p>
11.3 Protect and enhance local agricultural industries	★	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement RDA Roadmap initiatives (priority: premium food and wine production) Implement the Virginia and Northern Adelaide Plains Horticultural Study recommendations (<i>Mallala Council</i>) 	<p>Light Strategic Plan – Section 3</p> <p>Regional</p> <p>RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Infrastructure for Sustainable Populations</i></p> <p>Virginia and Northern Adelaide Plains Horticultural Study</p> <p>State</p> <p>30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide</p>

★ = Adequately addressed ★★ = Further development required ★★★ = New initiative

Commitment	Status	Actions	Strategic Linkages
12. Vibrant Places			
12.1 Re-vitalise main streets and town centres	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote connections between potential economic growth sectors and health and wellbeing: local fresh food production, recreation and ecological based tourism. Incorporate 'health in planning' principles in main street and town centre projects (recognising dual benefits to public health and local economy). 	<p>Local Gawler Strategic Plan – Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p> <p>Barossa Strategic Plan– Focus Areas 1 and 2</p> <p>Mallala Strategic Plan– Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Section 3</p> <p>Regional RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Infrastructure for Sustainable Populations</i></p> <p>State 30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide</p>
13. Digital Economy			
13.1 Advocate for improved internet services	☆☆	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement RDA Roadmap initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for the NBN roll-out and utilisation by the health sector Advocacy for broadband access for economic development, community information, life-long learning 	<p>Local Gawler Strategic Plan – Strategic Directions 3 and 5.</p> <p>Barossa Strategic Plan– Focus Areas 1 and 2</p> <p>Mallala Strategic Plan– Goal 1</p> <p>Light Strategic Plan – Section 3</p> <p>Regional RDA Roadmap Priorities: <i>Infrastructure for Sustainable Populations</i></p>

☆ = Adequately addressed ☆☆ = Further development required ☆☆☆ = New initiative

8. A Regional Model for Plan Implementation

The Public Health Plan Project Team and Council reference groups will manage the implementation of the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Cementing an effective regional governance structure for the Plan implementation is a key priority for this initial planning cycle. The continued engagement of key stakeholders beyond the regional Councils is fundamental to the successful implementation of the Plan. The establishment of a regional 'Public Health and Wellbeing Stakeholder Reference Group' is recommended for maintaining external stakeholder communication and input.

The Public Health Project Team will initially focus on the development of an Implementation Plan in consultation with the key stakeholders. During this stage the roles and responsibilities of Council and other agencies, as well as support from SA Health and the LGA of SA, will be determined.

A proposed model for regional governance of the Public Health and Wellbeing Plan is provided in Figure 4.

Figure 4 – Regional Governance Model for Public Health



8.1 Plan Review and Reporting

Progress against the Plan will be reported on every two years in accordance with the *SA Public Health Act 2011*. A review of the Plan will be undertaken every five years in association with Council strategic planning requirements under *section 122 of the Local Government Act 1999*. Each regional Council should seek to align the public health commitment areas with their strategic plans, during the next strategic planning review cycle.

The Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Project Team will monitor the 'measures of success' and the implementation of each commitment, for biennial reporting on Plan progress to the Council and Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO). Plan progress will also be reported through Council annual reports.

9. References

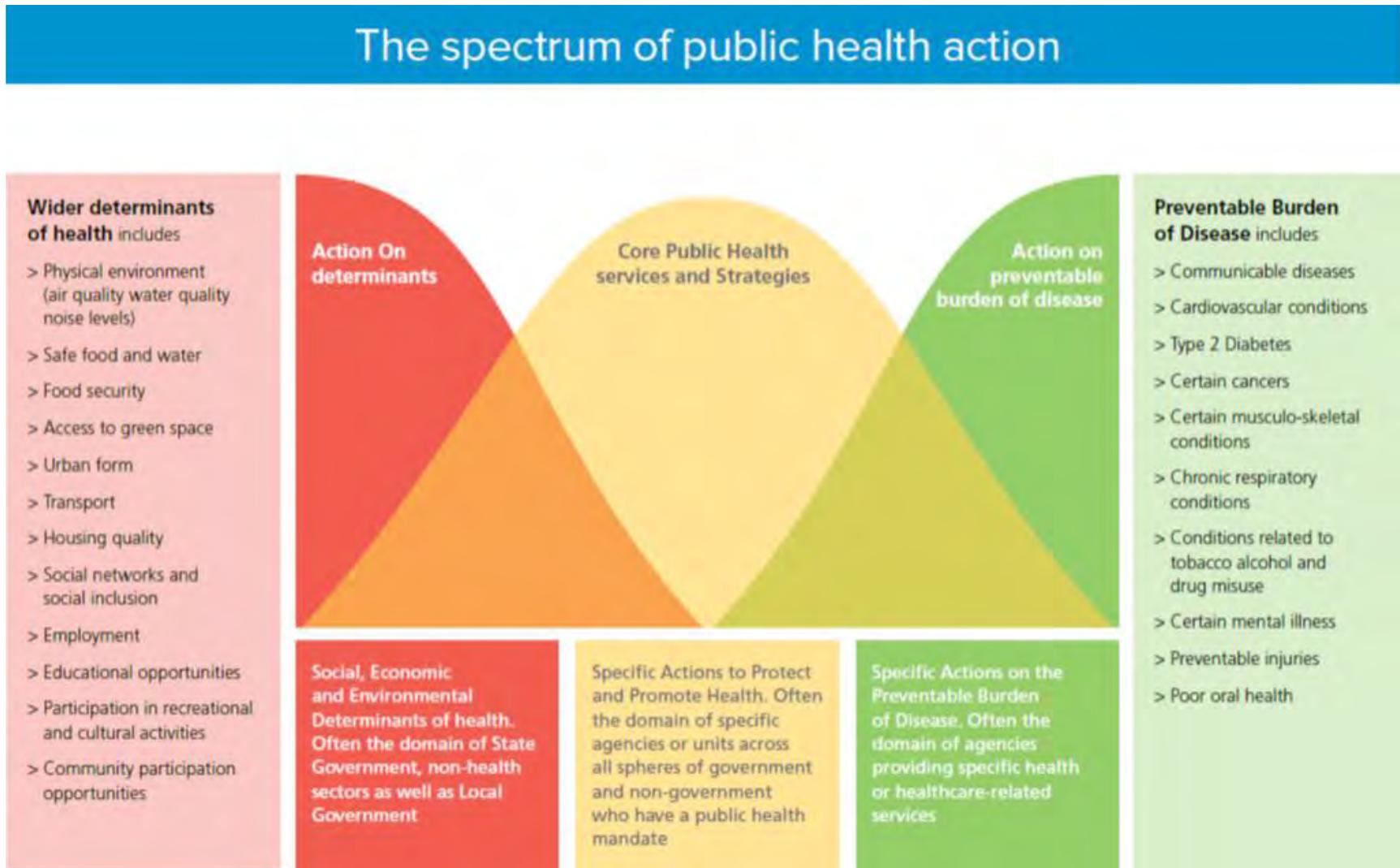
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10. Glossary

- **Chronic Disease** - The term “chronic disease” describes health problems that persist across time and require some degree of health care management.
- **Community Wellbeing** -Wellbeing refers to the condition or state of being well, contented and satisfied with life. Wellbeing has several components, including physical, mental, social and spiritual. Wellbeing can be used in a collective sense, to describe how well a society satisfies people’s wants and needs.
- **Communicable Disease** - An infectious disease that can be transmitted from one infected individual to another.
- **Epidemic** – An epidemic occurs when new cases of a certain disease, in a given human population, and during a given period, substantially exceed what is expected based on recent experience.
- **Health** - Health is ‘an everyday resource – the capacity to adapt to, respond to, or control life’s challenges and changes’.³
- **Infectious Disease** - A disease that is caused by the entrance of micro-organisms (bacteria, viruses, protozoa, fungi) to the body that grow and multiply there.
- **Pandemic** - An epidemic of infectious disease that has spread through human populations across a large region; for instance multiple continents, or even worldwide.
- **Public Health** - ‘Public health means the health of individuals in the context of the wider health of the Community’.¹
- **Strategic Management Plans** - The *Local Government Act 1999* (section 122) requires Councils to prepare Strategic Management Plans which set a clear vision and objectives for the management of their area for a minimum four year period.

Appendix A – The Spectrum of Public Health Action



Source: South Australia: A Better Place to Live (Department for Health and Ageing, 2013)

Appendix B – Organisations Represented at the Stakeholder Forums

- *Country North Medicare Local*
- *Northern Adelaide Medicare Local*
- *Department for Health and Ageing (including regional Country Health SA representatives)*
- *Regional Health Advisory Councils*
- *Local Government Association of SA*
- *Department for Planning Transport and Infrastructure*
- *Department for Education and Child Development (Elsie Ey Children's Centre)*
- *Northern Adelaide Waste Management Authority*
- *Regional Development Australia (Barossa)*
- *Barossa Sustainable Environs Committee*
- *The Barossa Council*
- *Town of Gawler*
- *Light Regional Council*
- *District Council of Mallala*

Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Part B - State of Health Research Report





Report
Regional Public Health Plan – Part B State of Health
Client: Barossa, Light, Mallala and Gawler Councils
Date of issue: 18/07/14
Status: Final

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1 Introduction

The Barossa Council, Town of Gawler, Light Regional Council and the District Council of Mallala are undertaking a regional approach to public health planning, in line with the provisions of the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*¹.

Public health planning provides an opportunity for local Councils to develop a coordinated approach to promote the health of their communities. The *SA Public Health Act 2011* recognises local Councils as the 'Public Health Authority' for their area. Under the Act, Councils are required to develop Regional Public Health Plans, which have regard to issues identified in the State Public Health Plan² and which respond to local priorities.

This Part A 'State of Health Research Report' responds to the requirement of the Act (Section 51 (8)) to 'comprehensively assess the state of health of the Council area', as part of the public health planning process. The report aims to present a 'picture of the state of health' across the region, adopting a 'social determinants of health framework'. Information pertinent to each Council area is also highlighted.

2 National and State Context

Australians generally enjoy good health. Our life expectancy at birth has risen dramatically over the past 100 years and the physical health of older Australians is improving³. However life expectancy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is much lower than for non-indigenous Australians (12 years less for males and 10 years less for females). Closing this gap is a national priority³.

The report of the National Preventative Health Taskforce targets obesity, tobacco and the excessive consumption of alcohol as the key modifiable risk factors driving around 30 per cent of the burden of disease in Australia⁴.

The Australian National Preventive Health Agency (the Agency), 'State of Preventative Health Report 2013', highlights the following statistics for South Australians⁵:

- Smoking: 17.4% (reported smoking on a daily basis)
- Alcohol: 18.2% (consumed more than 2 standard drinks per day)
- Overweight and Obesity: 66.1% (classified as being overweight or obese).

Environmental sustainability and climate change are also priorities at the Commonwealth level. The Commonwealth has invested in the National Climate Change Adaptation Program which has supported climate change adaptation planning at the State and regional level⁶.

At a State level, the report on the 'State of Public Health for South Australia 2012', highlights the need to maintain effective control of infectious diseases and deal with the growing wave of non-communicable conditions related to common risk factors (for example, overweight and obesity, reduced opportunities for physical activity, overabundance of energy-dense, nutrition poor foods in combination with poor access to nutritious foods)⁷.

The first State Public Health Plan under the SA Public Health Act 2011 ('South Australia: A Better Place to Live') seeks to strengthen coordination of public health management in South Australia. The Plan establishes system-building actions for developing an effective public health planning framework across State and Local Government.

Four priority areas within the State Plan have been identified, including²:

- Stronger and Healthier Communities and Neighbourhoods for All Generations.
- Increasing Opportunities for Healthy Living, Healthy Eating and Being Active.
- Preparing for Climate Change.
- Sustaining and Improving Public and Environmental Health Protection.

The Plan acknowledges that local Councils have always had a significant role in public health and are already strongly focused on how to improve community wellbeing.

3 Health and Wellbeing – a Regional Priority

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Barossa which encompasses the four Council areas of Barossa, Gawler, Light and Mallala Councils, recognises 'health and wellbeing' as a key priority for economic growth in the region. The importance of a preventative health approach and promoting the benefits of exercise, social interaction, arts and recreation in supporting vibrant communities, is recognised. The provision of health services to meet the demands of a growing population in the region, is also a key priority⁸.

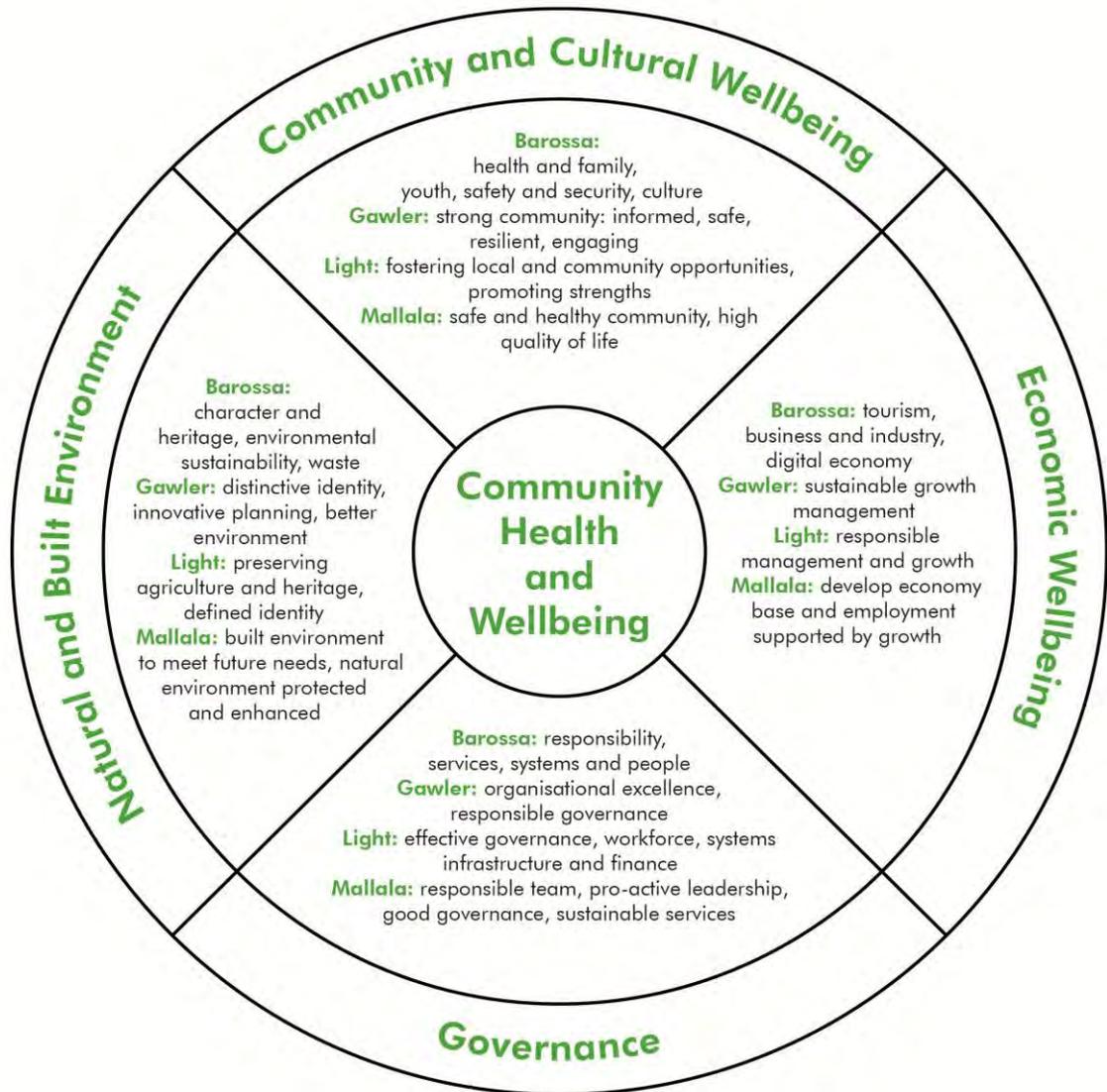
RDA Barossa's vision for the region 'is enhanced quality of life for all, derived through quality jobs in quality environments: cultural, social, ecological and economic'⁸.

The Regional Public Health Plan will deliver a framework for regional 'health and wellbeing', in line with the following principles of the regional roadmap⁷:

- Communities and townships are incubators for healthy populations.
- Connected communities thrive.
- Confident communities achieve.
- Innovative communities lead.
- Lives are enhanced by music and art and conviviality.

The Strategic Plans of each Council also incorporate strategic objectives for supporting healthy communities. The key policy elements of the four Council Strategic Plans, relevant to promoting community wellbeing are summarised in Figure 1.

Figure 1 – Council Strategy for Wellbeing



4 Research Scope

‘South Australia: A Better Place to Live’ sets the context for Councils to take a broader approach to promoting health and wellbeing². Councils contribute towards shaping the local social and physical environment to support community health. In addition to the traditional public health protection functions that Councils undertake, they influence the local social, economic and natural environment, critical to promoting healthier lifestyles.

This State of Health Research Report aims to consider the broader determinants of health in the Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region and to guide the development a holistic plan for promoting regional public health. The report does not cover all local factors that impact on public health. The research scope and choice of data categories assessed has taken into consideration the priorities outlined in ‘South Australia: A Better Place to Live’ and the various Council functions which impact on public health.

The research framework is summarised in Table 1.

Table 1 – State of Health Framework

Community and Cultural Wellbeing	Economic Wellbeing	Natural and Built Environment
Social Indicators	Economic Activity	Built Environment
Education and Lifelong Learning	Broadband	Natural Environment
Arts and Cultural Activity	Employment	Climate Change
Community Strengths		Food Safety and Security
Personal Health		Water Resource Management
Childhood Health		Solid Waste Management
Community Services		

Information has been sourced from various regional studies, Council reports and plans and social determinant data published for Local Government Areas by the Public Health and Information Development Unit (PHIDU)⁹.

Discussion of ABS data in some cases is based on Statistical Local Areas (SLAs). There are five SLAs (level one) across the region: Light, Mallala, Angaston, Barossa, Tanunda and Gawler.

A full list of references is provided in Section 7. The report also draws on the key issues raised at the regional stakeholder forums held for the development of the public health plan during November to December 2013¹⁰.

5 Regional State of Health

5.1 Regional Overview

The Barossa, Light and Lower Northern region of Councils has a population of approximately 66,800 and is expected to grow to about 170,000 over the next 30 years. The region is diverse and incorporates sparsely populated coastal areas, prime broad acre cropping land and the wine producing Barossa Valley¹¹.

In 2012 the resident population in the Barossa region was 66,541 persons, representing approximately 4.0 percent of the State total of 1.65 million persons. The area has a relatively young population with above average school aged and younger children, above average numbers of people aged between 45 and 64 years and a high proportion of families with children¹¹.

Aboriginal people comprised 1.2% of the population at the 2011 Census, which was 11% less than the proportion in the metropolitan area overall (1.3%). The highest proportion was living in Mallala (2.0%), which was 16% above the average for Metropolitan Adelaide. The Aboriginal population across the region shows higher proportions at younger ages and lower proportions at older ages, a feature most noticeable in Gawler¹¹.

The 2006 and 2011 population and projected population growth by Council area is shown in Table 2^{9,11}.

Table 2 – Population by Council Area

Council	2006 Population	2011 population	Projected Population 2036*
Barossa	20,528	22,436	39,965
Gawler	18,862	20,939	40,606
Light	12,405	13,955	79,217
Mallala	7,892	8,463	9,899

* Based on population projections for the 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide¹².

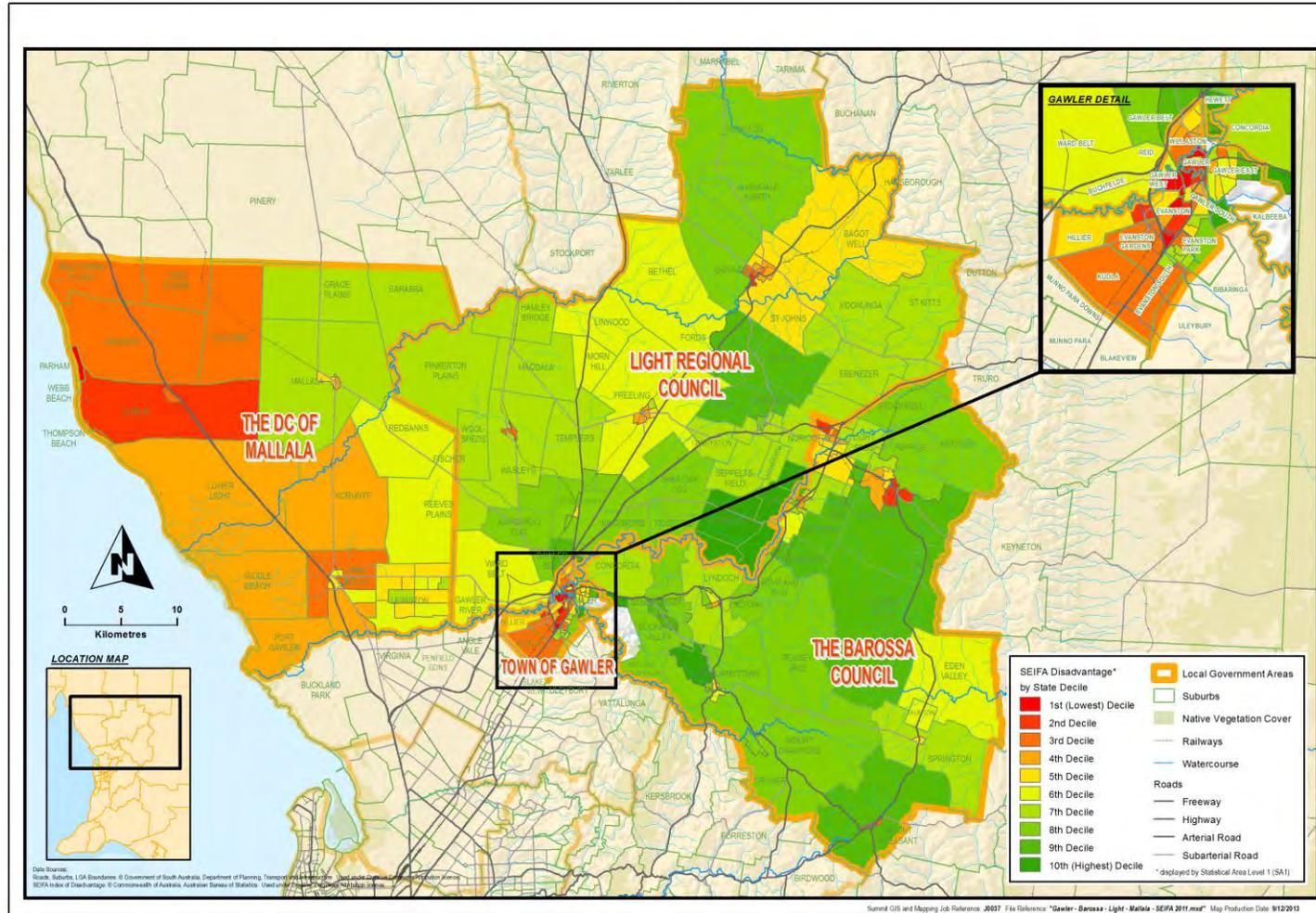
5.2 Community and Cultural Wellbeing

Social Indicators

The Index of Relative Social Disadvantage (IRSD) measures the relative level of socio-economic disadvantage based on a range of Census characteristics. The index is derived from attributes that reflect disadvantage such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment and jobs in relatively unskilled occupations. Map 1 shows the index of socio-economic disadvantage across the region. Scores are ordered from lowest to highest in the State. The lowest 10% of areas are given a decile number of 1. The highest 10% are given a decile number of 10.

Overall, Mallala and Gawler Councils have greater areas of disadvantage. Small areas of disadvantage exist within the Light and Barossa Council areas.

Map 1 – SEIFA Index of Disadvantage



Education and Lifelong Learning

Education increases opportunities for choice of occupation, income and job security. These are key factors that influence wellbeing throughout the life course.

Childhood Education

The Australian Early Development Index (AEDI) provides information on early childhood development outcomes and was undertaken nationwide in 2009. Information was collected on children in their first year of full-time school (average age of five years and seven months), using a teacher-completed checklist. The results from the AEDI provide communities and schools with information about how local children have developed by the time they start school measured across five areas (domains) of early childhood development: physical health and wellbeing, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills (school-based) and communication skills and general knowledge⁹.

Less than one fifth of children (18.5%) in the Northern Regional Group in their first year of school were assessed under the AEDI measure as being developmentally vulnerable on one or more domains. This was lower than the metropolitan average of 23.0%. The highest proportion of this population group was for Light (22.0%) and the lowest was in Barossa - Tanunda SLA (6.8%)⁹.

Secondary and Higher Education

High school attainment is a key priority for the region¹³. The proportion (13.9%) of the 16 year old population in the region not in full-time secondary education was lower than the metropolitan average (16.2%). However, there was a difference in proportions across the region: from 17.9% of this age group living in Gawler who were not participating, to just 7.5% in Barossa – Tanunda SLA⁹.

A lower proportion of the region's students, who attained a Year 12 qualification in 2012, enrolled in a South Australian university in 2013, relative to the metropolitan area overall (22.3% compared with 35.7%). The highest proportion was in Barossa - Tanunda SLA (36.6%)⁹.

Innovative Community Action Networks (ICAN) was rolled out across the Barossa, Light and Lower Northern region in mid 2011. ICAN is a school and community partnership program that focuses on finding solutions to local issues which prevent young people from participating in and completing their education. It targets young people from Grade 6 up until 18 years of age¹³.

Lifelong Learning Opportunities

Opportunities for lifelong learning are important for promoting community participation and for increasing educational attainment and employment choices.

Council libraries are recognised as important venues for encouraging equitable access to information as well as non-formal learning opportunities. They play a key role in developing literacy skills, particularly for persons from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Libraries provide an avenue for community volunteering opportunities available within Council and other community programs.

Statistics for libraries in the region are provided in Table 3.

Table 3 – Library Loans and Memberships

Council	Library Branches	Library Loans 2011-2012	Library Memberships 2011-2012
Barossa	Angaston, Lyndoch, Mt pleasant, Nurioopta, Tanunda	232,349	16,120
Gawler	Gawler Library, Evanston Gardens Branch	130,000	13,288
Light	Kapunda, Freeling, Greenock	26,500	7,400
Mallala	Two Wells, Mallala, Windsor Institute	26,181 (2012-2013)	1,960 (2012-2013)

Community Strengths

Social participation, such as volunteering or being a member of a community group, can benefit individuals in areas such as improved health and wellbeing, social inclusion and reduced crime, improved local services and facilities and better educational outcomes.⁹

As highlighted in the Central Region Climate Change Vulnerability Report, volunteers in the State Emergency Services and Country Fire Service are a significant resource for emergency management and safety in the region^{14,15}. The region has a strength of community and has demonstrated capacity to support each other in times of crisis. These attributes of the region need to be recognised and supported.

Indicators of community strength and safety in the region (based on 2010 data), highlight that the majority of people consider that they are 'able to get support in times of crisis (92.2%)'. Almost half the population (48.8%) were estimated to feel very safe or safe walking in their local area after dark; this proportion was higher than the metropolitan areas average of 43.5%, but varied from 42.7% in Gawler, to 52.2% in Barossa – Angaston⁹.

The percentage of the population involved in volunteer activities in 2006/2011 was^{14,15}:

- The Barossa Council – 28% (2006), 27% (2011)
- Town of Gawler – 20% (2006), 19% (2011)
- Light Regional Council – 19% (2006),

- District Council of Mallala – 19% (2006), 18% (2011)

Arts and Cultural Activity

Vibrant public spaces and market places activated by art and music, facilitate connected and inclusive communities. This is supported in the Barossa RDA Roadmap where a key strategy for the health and wellbeing priority is the provision of a ‘flexible public realm and infrastructure for the arts’⁸.

The development of cultural and artistic activities is promoted throughout the region through support for art exhibitions, the South Australian Living Arts Festival (SALA) and musical and film events. The Barossa Council has a strong arts and cultural focus and the Barossa Regional Gallery is one of the key cultural services in the region. The Town of Gawler provided support for local Fringe Festival events in 2013 to stimulate activity and interest in the arts.

The RDA Barossa Roadmap proposes the development of an arts and cultural hub for the region and connecting arts and cultural activities as a growing industry cluster⁸.

The cultural landscape in the region reflects the substantial influence of early British and German settlers. Cultural heritage is celebrated in the region through the preservation and promotion of heritage items and support for events such as History Week celebrations, fairs and Harmony Day.

In comparison with the metropolitan area overall, the percentage of residents born overseas is small. The proportion of the population born in Italy is highest in the District Council of Mallala (0.8%) but is less than half the rate for the metropolitan area (1.7%)⁹. Other populations represented include India and China but in much lower numbers compared to the metropolitan area. A small proportion (0.3%) of the overseas-born population reported in 2011 that they had poor proficiency in English and there was little variation across the region.

The proportion of Aboriginal people living in the region is smaller than the metropolitan area. Within the region, the highest proportion of Aboriginal people live in the District Council of Mallala. A number of initiatives that recognise and celebrate Aboriginal culture are supported or delivered in the region⁹.



Council owned recreational and leisure facilities in the region range from local community halls to large multi-purpose facilities such as the Hewitt Community Centre and the Rex Barossa Aquatic and Fitness Centre. The Rex Centre recorded over 150,000 attendances in 2011-2012. Swimming facilities are also available at the Gawler Aquatic Centre. Gawler's STARplex, operated by Trinity College on a not-for-profit basis, is another major recreation facility.

There are a number of skate facilities in the region and a new skate park in Gawler is in the development stages.

Council supported community events encourage community interaction and increased physical activity. These include street parades, Christmas celebrations, community and farm fairs, Australia Day celebrations and Citizenship ceremonies.

A number of suggestions and ideas were received during consultation relating to broadening the opportunities for recreation, leisure and increased physical activity in the region.

Personal Health

This Section considers data related to the health status of the regional population as well as health risk factors linked to preventable disease in Australia such as tobacco smoking, alcohol consumption, physical inactivity, obesity and being overweight. Summary information has been drawn from data published by the Public Health Information Development Unit (PHIDU) for Local Government Areas in South Australia⁹.

The following regional information is taken from the summary of modelled estimates from the 2007-2008 National Health Survey:

- **Self-assessed health** - It is estimated that 15.5% of the population of the region assessed their health as 'fair' or 'poor', rather than as 'good', 'very good' or 'excellent'. This was above the metropolitan average of 15.3%. Of the adults in Mallala, 17.9% were estimated to rate their health poorly, compared with 12.5% in the Barossa.
- **Type 2 Diabetes** - The proportion of the population of the region estimated to have type 2 Diabetes was 3.4%, which is below the metropolitan average of 3.5%. The highest prevalence was estimated to be in Mallala (3.6%).
- **Mental health problems** - Mental health problems were estimated to have affected 10.6% of males, consistent with the metropolitan average (10.7%). Estimated prevalence varied from 11.4% in Gawler to 9.6% in Barossa-Tanunda. The estimated rate of mental health problems among females was 11.9% (lower than the metropolitan average of 12.1%). Most areas had a prevalence rate consistent with or below the metropolitan average, but a 4% higher rate was estimated for Gawler.
- **Smoking** - The smoking rate (adults smoking on a daily basis) was estimated at 21.1%, which was higher than the metropolitan average of 18.9%.

- **Obesity** - The estimated obesity rate for males in the region was 18.1%, which was above the metropolitan area overall (17.3%). The LGAs of Mallala and Gawler both had the highest estimated obesity rate in the region of 20.1%. Light and each of the Barossa SLAs were estimated to be below the metropolitan average. The estimated obesity rate for females in the region was 17.5% and was above the metropolitan rate (16.7%). There was variation again in the estimated prevalence of female obesity, from 18.2% in Mallala to a lower 16.8% in Barossa-Tanunda, but all estimated rates were above the average for Metropolitan Adelaide.
- **Physical Inactivity** - The extent of physical inactivity among the adult population in the Northern Regional Group (35.4% of the adult population) was consistent with the estimated rate in the metropolitan area (35.1%). Mallala was the only area with a higher rate of 37.2%.

Early Life and Childhood

The region has a relatively young population and a higher proportion of families with children. The fertility rate for the region in 2011 was 2.05, which was higher than the rate for the metropolitan area overall (1.79). The highest fertility rate within the region was for Barossa-Tanunda (2.30).

Key childhood health data (based on the for the region is summarised below ¹⁰):

- **Smoking during pregnancy** - During 2008 to 2010, 15.7% of women reported smoking during their pregnancy. This was 21% above the metropolitan average rate of 13.0%. The rate of smoking in pregnancy varied from 9.5% for Barossa-Tanunda, to 19.1% in Mallala.
- **Immunisation** – Based on the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (2011 to 2012), the rate of immunisation at one year of age (94.4%) in the region was higher than the metropolitan average (92.2%). The proportion of children in the region who were fully immunised at five years of age (90.9%) was also higher than the metropolitan average (87.0%). The lowest proportion was in Mallala Council (87.2%).
- **Childhood obesity** – The extent of obesity among 4 year old boys (based on 2010 to 2012 data) was 3.7% compared to the metropolitan average of 5.3%. 2.5% of girls were assessed as being obese compared with the metropolitan average of 3.8 %.
- **Child and adolescent mental health** - the rate of children aged 0-19 years who were clients of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) (based on 2008 to 2010 data) was 2% higher than the metropolitan area overall. Across the region, rates were 26% higher for Gawler and 9% higher for Mallala, indicating the important role these services play in the community.

With a young population, childhood health is a key priority for the region. The Gawler community is planning a bid to be recognised as a globally-accredited "child friendly community". A group of parents, community leaders and organisations who work with children and young people are supporting the initiative to achieve formal recognition accreditation from international children's charity UNICEF.

Health and Community Services

Health Services

Hospitals providing acute care in the region are located in Mallala, Kapunda, Tanunda, Angaston, Gawler and Mount Pleasant. All but Mallala are public facilities. A range of health services are provided through the Inner North Community Health Service of SA Health, with teams located at Kapunda, Angaston, Gawler, Tanunda and Nutiootpa. The distribution of these facilities throughout the region is illustrated in Map 2.

RDA Barossa has identified the need for a new regional health facility in view of the population growth in the region. The Regional Roadmap notes that the presence of health professionals and health clustering in the region would support a new fit for purpose regional health facility⁹.

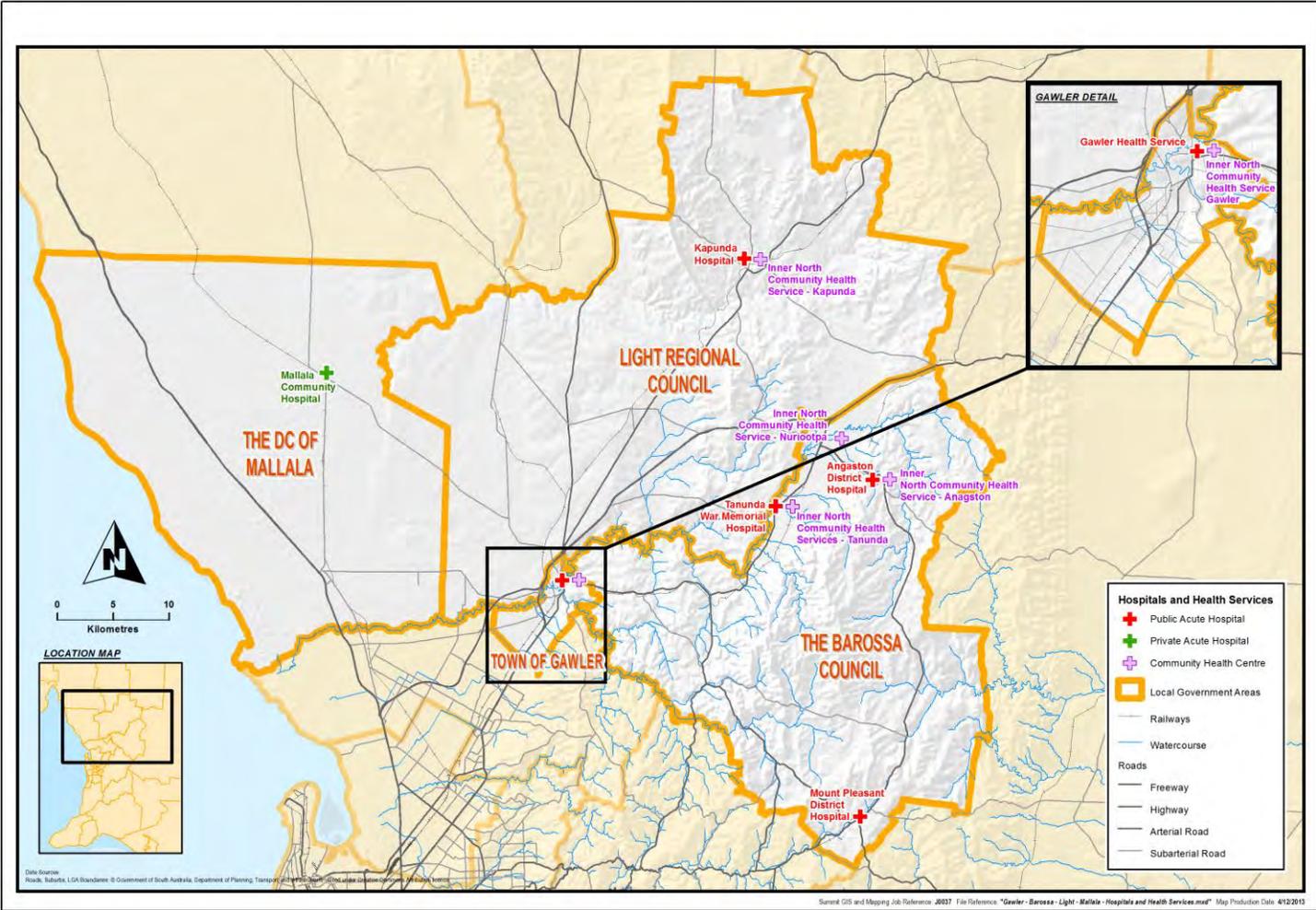
Other key planning issues identified in the Roadmap and raised during consultation included the following⁹:

- Service implications of an increasingly ageing population profile
- Achieving equitable and effective distribution of health facilities and services
- Improving the accessibility within towns for an ageing population
- Improving transport access to health and treatment services.

Key data provided relating to the level of use and access to health services is summarised below⁹:

- **Hospital admissions** - The rate of admission to a South Australian hospital for regional residents was 7% lower than the metropolitan average. However the lowest rate for Mallala, was 18% below this average, and that for Angaston was 6% higher.
- **Difficulty in accessing services** – This is measured using modelled estimates from the 2010 ABS General Social Survey, expressed as a rate per 100 population aged 18 years and over (age-standardised). In the region, difficulty in accessing services by people aged 18 years and over was estimated to be 19% higher than for the metropolitan area overall, with just under a third of the population estimated as facing such difficulties. Higher than average proportions were recorded for all areas except Gawler, which was consistent with Metropolitan Adelaide.
- **Community Mental Health** – This is expressed as an indirectly age-standardised rate per 100,000 population aged 18 years and over in 2009-2010. Slightly more people aged 18 years and over in the region are clients of government-funded community mental health services, with a rate just 1% above that across the metropolitan area overall. There were low rates across the region, with the exception of Gawler, which was 32% higher than that for Metropolitan Adelaide. This not only reflects demand for these important services, but also their availability locally as well as in Adelaide, where some residents would access them⁹.
- **Residential Aged Care Places** (high-level and low-level care), expressed as a rate per 1,000 population aged 70 years and over in June 2011. This measure is used to help plan for the accommodation needs of older residents. The rate of residential aged care places in the region was 22% lower than the rate across the metropolitan area overall. However, there was considerable variation across the region, from a rate in Tanunda SLA which was 57% higher, to that in Barossa SLA which was 84% lower than Metropolitan Adelaide.

Map 2 – Hospitals and Health Services



Council Services and Carer Population

Local Councils in conjunction with local community agencies, provide a range of Home and Community Care (HACC) and Home Assist support services and programs to help people maintain their independence and remain living safely in their own home. Council services can include housework, personal care, maintenance, social support and transport. The Town of Gawler provides HACC services and Light Regional Council in partnership with The Barossa Council provides a range of Home Assist services. The District Council of Mallala provides transport help and SA Country Carers visits in Two Wells twice per month.

The proportion of the population providing unpaid assistance to persons with a disability, a long-term illness or problems related to old age (12.2%) was higher than the metropolitan areas overall (11.8%). Their distribution across the Group was relatively even, with the highest proportion in Tanunda (12.9%), which was 10% above Metropolitan Adelaide¹⁰. This highlights the significant proportion of the population providing care and the need to support carers in the community.

The number of Home and Community Care (HACC) Program clients who live alone, as a proportion of the total client population, is an indicator of the level of need for support services. In 2010, less than a third of HACC clients in the region were living alone (29.9%), which was 20% lower than the proportion across the metropolitan area overall (37.2%). However, the proportion for Gawler (35.9%) was only 3% lower than the metropolitan area average¹⁰.

Council Services – Immunisation

All Councils in the region promote the availability of immunisation services in their area. Barossa Council, in conjunction with the Barossa General Practice Network and other local health services, provides immunisation services to students at Nuriootpa High School and Faith Lutheran Secondary School, in accordance with the Australian Government's Immunise Australia Program. A total of 1,362 vaccines were administered in the 2011 calendar year.

The Town of Gawler also provides community and school clinics. Gawler administered 4374 vaccines in the 2012/13 financial year. The Town of Gawler also provides a user-pays workplace immunization services to local businesses.

Since 2011, Light Regional Council has provided a school based immunisation program.

Immunisation participation in 2011/12 is shown in Table 4. The State government is aiming to improve immunisation rates in the pre-school (four to five year) age group through their 'big help for little adventurers' campaign, as well as for Aboriginal children.

Table 4 – Immunisation Participation 2011/12

Council	1 Year (Percent)	5 Years (percent)
Barossa	95.1	93.1
Gawler	93.9	87.7
Light	94.6	93.8
Mallala	93.6	87.2

5.3 Economic Wellbeing

Economic Activity

Core industries of the Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region, incorporate livestock and horticulture production, grain production and permaculture and world-renowned wine, regional food and farmer’s markets and associated tourism of the Barossa Valley. Current land uses in the region are shown in Map 3. ‘An important element of RDA Barossa’s focus over the past year has been to strengthen and diversify this economic base with growth in tourism, restaurant trade, branded produce and food products and locally generated services to these industries’⁹.

Revitalising main streets and town centres has been a priority for supporting local businesses in the region through town centre master planning. Current key projects include: the Nurioopta Place Making Project, the Greenock Main Street Project, Kapunda Event Space Infrastructure, Murray Street upgrade in Gawler and the Two Wells town centre re-development.

The roll out of broadband is critical to economic development in the region. It is proposed that the National Broadband Network will be rolled out over the next 3 years to Tanunda, Nurioopta, Angaston, Penrice, Stockwell and Two Wells (this may be subject to policy change). Higher-speed fixed wireless and satellite infrastructure is planned for most of the region.

The NBN is considered of key importance for community and health care services in the region. RDA Barossa has developed an integrated Digital Economy Strategy ‘Digital Barossa’. As part of this strategy, the local health sector has been identified as a substantial beneficiary of the NBN roll-out. RDA Barossa has established a regional focus group to prepare for the effective utilisation of broadband in the region⁸.

Employment

The top five employment sectors in the region in 2012 were manufacturing, retail trade, agriculture, forestry and fishing, health and community services and education and training.

In 2012 total employment in SA was 726,113 with the Barossa region accounting for approximately 3.0 percent of the total state employment. In 2012, the Barossa Region accounted for approximately 2.7 percent of the state economy⁸.

The RDA Barossa road map identifies development of intensive horticulture production (supported by additional water infrastructure) as an employment growth opportunity for the region. Sectors which promote healthy lifestyles such as cycle tourism and culinary tourism have also been identified as growth opportunities⁸.

Key employment statistics for the region are summarised below⁹:

- **Work or full-time study** – In 2011, the proportion of 15 to 19 year olds population in the region engaged in full time work or study was 80.5%, was comparable to that in the metropolitan area overall (80.9%). The highest proportion was in Barossa - Tanunda (85.1%), and the lowest was in Gawler (79.2%).
- **Unemployment benefits** - In June 2011, fewer people in the region aged from 16 to 64 years were receiving unemployment benefits (a Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance (other)) from Centrelink than was the case across the metropolitan area overall: 3.8% compared with 4.7%.
- **Unemployed for longer than 6 months** - fewer people in the region had been unemployed for six months or longer (3.0%), compared with 3.6% in the metropolitan area overall. Gawler recorded the highest proportion (3.8%).
- **Unemployment benefits** - The population receiving a Newstart Allowance (and aged 15 to 24 years) or Youth Allowance (other) from Centrelink comprised 5.8% of the population aged 15 to 24 years in the region, which was lower than the metropolitan average of 6.4%. Gawler had the highest proportion of this population group (7.7%), which was higher than Metropolitan Adelaide.

Map 4 illustrates the location of employment for all residents in the region who are above 15 years of age. The City of Adelaide and the suburb of Elizabeth are the most common employment destinations outside of the region.

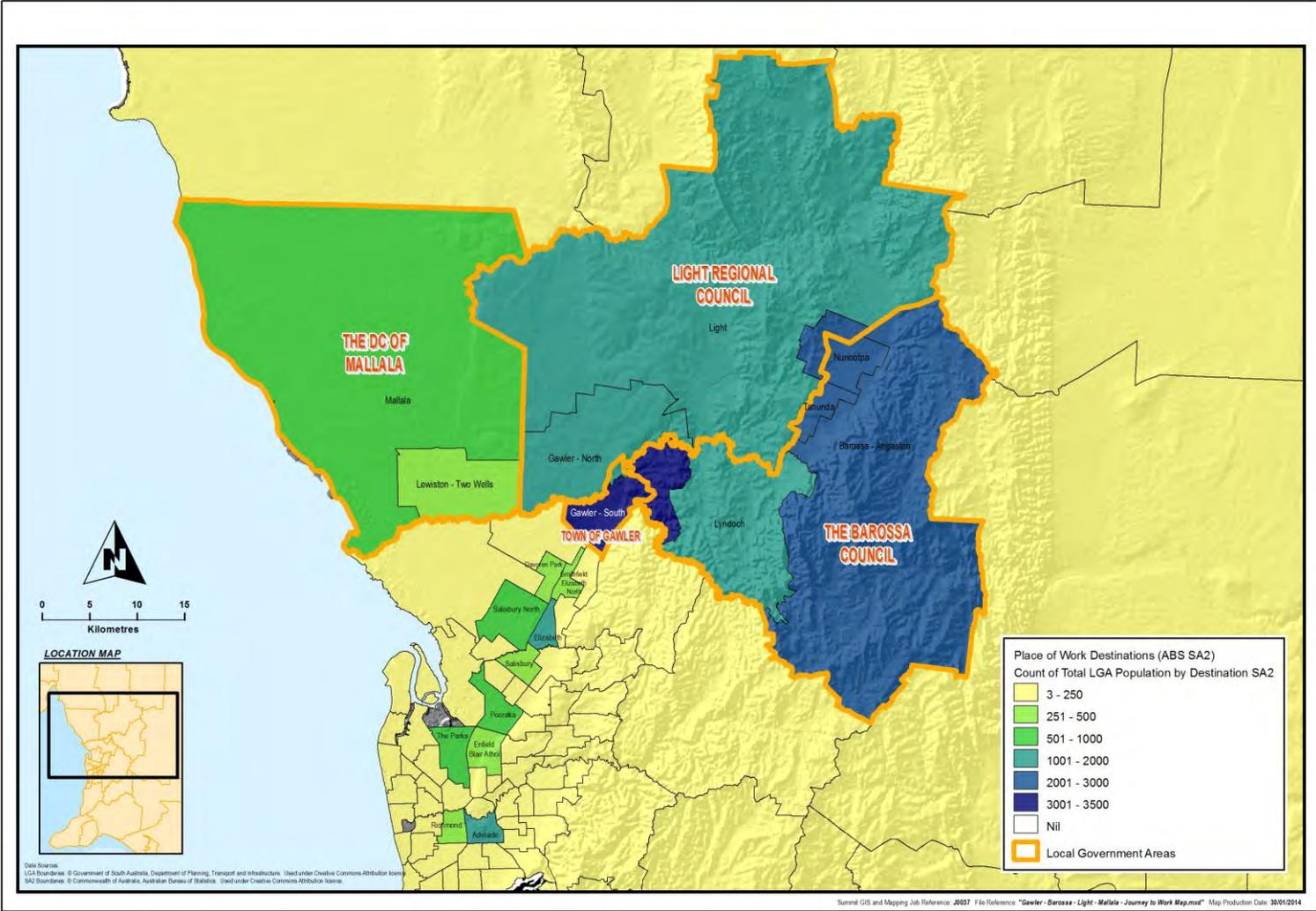
The region has been affected by the decline or consolidation of some manufacturing industries. Promoting the future of advanced manufacturing is a key priority of RDA's Regional Roadmap⁸. Manufacturing employment will potentially be impacted by the recently announced closure of the Holden Manufacturing Plant in Elizabeth (in the City of Playford). This highlights the importance of supporting skills development and planning for sustainable employment opportunities, in collaboration with northern Adelaide Councils.

The region has a number of support services and programs aimed at supporting youth and general community employment:

- **The Barossa Career Service and Skills for All Program** support at no cost to eligible residents with skills development to assist them to develop and enhance their career.
- **The Barossa Future Leaders Program** is a community led initiative to up-skill future community leaders. The program was designed in conjunction with Adelaide University's Executive Education Unit and non-academics who are leaders in their field, and current community leaders from around the Barossa Region.

- **The Northern Adelaide Regional Collaboration** is a voluntary collaboration of five local government entities (City of Playford, City of Salisbury, Town of Gawler, Light Regional Council and District Council of Mallala), South Australian and Australian governments, and community and business organisations. The group shares a vision and commitment to a prosperous and sustainable future for the communities of northern Adelaide.

Map 4 – Place of Work Destinations (for people living in the region above 15)



5.4 Natural and Built Environment

Built Environment

Regional Development

The Barossa RDA region is one of the most significant regions for future urban growth identified in *The 30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide*. The 30 Year Plan indicates that 48% of the future population growth and 42% of the future employment growth of Greater Adelaide will be in the Barossa RDA region. This growth has already commenced with significant new urban development establishing in the region in the past 10 years¹².

The 30-Year Plan's population and dwelling projections to 2038, propose 4,000 new homes in Gawler East and Evanston, population growth of 60,000 in Roseworthy and 500 in Freeling, significant growth in Two Wells as well as new development in Mt Pleasant¹². As the localities grow in size, strategies to mesh existing and new residents will be important to ensure strong connected communities in the future.

Providing social and community infrastructure in a timely manner for the growing communities is of critical importance. Issues include the need for integrated transport services and facilities, accessible health, community and education facilities and determining community focal points and potential locations that will best service the residents of townships and the surrounding communities.

More detailed planning for the redevelopment of the Two Wells Town Centre has been progressed within the context of the projected growth. A number of other Development Plan Amendments are also being progressed in the region to accommodate the projected growth. Lewiston, one of the State's largest rural living areas is also experiencing growth. Protecting rural land use and character is important particularly given the diverse activities that occur within the Animal Husbandry Zone, including hobby farming, horse keeping and dog keeping.

Planning for agriculture is of key importance as the impacts of semi urban growth on premium farming land and farmers' livelihoods needs to be carefully managed.

The Character Preservation (Barossa Valley) Act 2012 which came into effect in January 2013 aims to protect the Barossa from urban sprawl and protect adjacent agricultural practice¹⁶. The legislation provides for a clear distinction between village style townships and the rural landscape, allowing a mix of uses and diverse farming practices which reinforce the existing pattern of development. Residential development outside the existing township boundaries in the Barossa and Eden Valleys will therefore be limited. There will also be an impact on areas within Light Regional Council.

The new legislation has had an uncertain impact on expansion to farming as well as tourism and winery infrastructure expansion. However, the protection of agriculturally productive land is important from a health perspective to ensure access to fresh food and to ensure that development is sensitive to food issues.

The region is rich in built heritage. The Development Plan for each Council area lists the properties and items which have been designated as Local and State Heritage Places, Contributory Places as well as Historic Conservation and Policy Areas. The Town of

Gawler and Light Regional Council also provide grants to support the preservation of heritage properties.

The majority of development applications approved by each Council relate to residential development in townships and rural living areas. Applications for horse keeping and dog kenneling development were also common in Mallala.

Housing

The new Rural Property Addressing system has been introduced to 2,500 rural properties, ensuring a uniform signage system in line with national standards.

Recent demand growth has reduced housing affordability in the region. State Government commitment has been given to encouraging affordable housing in Freeling, Mallala, Gawler and Lewiston.

Key housing affordability indicators are summarised below⁹:

- **Mortgage stress** - Relatively more low income households were assessed as being under mortgage stress at the 2011 Census, with 9.1% in the region, compared with 8.4% in the metropolitan area overall. Proportions varied from 11.1% in Mallala to 4.4% in Barossa - Tanunda.
- **Rental stress** - The level of rental stress was also above the metropolitan average, with 27.2% of low income families in this category in the region, compared with 26.9% for Metropolitan Adelaide. The highest proportion, of 30.9%, was in the LGA of Gawler.
- **Social housing** - The proportion of the housing stock in the region rented from Housing SA at the 2011 Census was 60% below the metropolitan average (2.6% compared with 6.4%). Across the Group, the highest proportion was in Gawler (5.5%).
- **Rental assistance** - The proportion of households receiving rental assistance from the Australian Government in the region (14.0%) was lower than in the metropolitan area overall (14.6%). Relatively more households in Gawler (19.6%) were receiving rental assistance compared with the metropolitan average.

There is increasing demand for aged care facilities in several nodes of the region particularly Kapunda.

Local Councils have an important role in enforcing safe and suitable housing conditions. Mallala has employed a Development Compliance Officer to enforce development standards. A holistic approach to the complex nature of 'severe domestic squalor' and the associated causes, is now being sought through the South Australian Public Health (Severe Domestic Squalor) Policy 2013 (a policy under the SA Public Health Act 2011). A collaborative framework for addressing cases is a key element of the new policy.

Councils have a role in enforcing safety standards for household swimming pools. The State Government is considering a new legislative framework for swimming pool safety barriers.

Transport

One of the key infrastructure issues for the region is ensuring transport access which supports social and economic development. Concern has been raised regarding isolation of residents and difficulty in accessing services caused by limited transport options, particularly for public transport. Limited youth access to transport services is highlighted as a key issue in the Light Regional Council Social Plan¹⁵. Key public transport routes are shown in Map 5. North-south transport links are considered reasonable but east-west linkages are poor.

The State Government released the Draft Integrated Transport and Land Use Plan in October 2013. Proposed "Solutions and Actions" for Outer Adelaide include initiatives for the Barossa Region. These include the revitalisation of the Adelaide to Gawler train line, extending and restructuring bus services to service growth areas including Two Wells, the preparation of the Regional Passenger Transport Plan for the Barossa and improving regional and township cycling networks¹⁷.

Many transport routes in the region currently host significant commuter, freight and transport traffic and are experiencing increased demand. Transport tensions and conflicts largely occur as a result of the competing needs of freight, tourism, commuters and local and regional travellers.

Adelaide suburban rail services extend to Gawler. The train route services other major suburbs including Elizabeth, Salisbury and Munno Para. A new rail link from Gawler to Roseworthy is proposed in response to the projected growth in the area.

There are daily bus services to Adelaide from Gawler and the Barossa Valley provided by non-government coach services. Commuters to Adelaide from larger centres in the region are serviced by regular peak hour services but options outside of peak times are limited. Adelaide Metro provides a local bus service within Gawler which includes links to the railway station.

Barossa, Light and Mallala Councils provide or sponsor regular Community Bus Services predominantly for the frail aged and residents with a disability. Volunteers operate the services. In addition to the monthly Community Bus travelling to Elizabeth Shopping Centre, the District Council of Mallala contributes funding to the Mid North Community Passenger Transport Network, which provides medical transport services for the residents of the District. Due to demand, an additional vehicle has been purchased which will be stored at Mallala Community Hospital.

Barossa Council, in conjunction with Light Regional Council operates the Barossa Regional Community Transport Scheme which is available to those who are transport disadvantaged with no other options available. Volunteers provide transport by car or bus, generally to medical appointments in the local area or in Adelaide.

Commercial bus services and taxis are also available within each Council area. Dial A Ride offers a door to door service on weekdays between a number of townships.

Each Council acts as custodian to an extensive range of fixed community assets including road infrastructure encompassing thousands of kilometres of sealed and unsealed roads important to residents for accessing services and facilities.

Open Space

The development of the Regional Barossa, Light and Lower North Open Space, Recreation and Public Realm Strategy is a key action for improved coordinated planning across the region and has resulted in multiple outcomes including better asset management and revitalised community spaces to meet current needs. The Strategy was prepared for the four member Councils, in conjunction with RDA Barossa, Office for Recreation and Sport (ORS) and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI)¹¹. Key open space and recreation assets are shown in Map 6.

The Plan identifies future strategic priorities for the development of open space, public realm and recreation facilities, taking into account the likely changes in demand as a result of population growth and changes in leisure trends.

Categorisation and spatial mapping of assets will improve strategic planning for new and existing facilities as well as help to improve asset management. Consistent GIS asset recording systems used by each Council will also assist regional planning at the State Government level.

A number of the Councils have also prepared local plans for managing local open space issues.

The open space in Mallala and Light is well above the benchmark of 9 hectares per 1,000, due to large unpopulated rural areas. Gawler and Barossa have supply levels of just over the benchmark. Population growth projected to 2036 indicates that open space at its current levels will fall below the benchmark for each Council apart from Mallala and reinforces the need for Councils to prepare and implement policy that will support the retention of 9 hectares as minimum provision.

A number of public and private schools in the region provide playing fields and opportunities exist to negotiate joint use arrangements to share these for community use. Light Regional Council also has similar opportunities with Adelaide University land situated in the vicinity of Roseworthy.

Cycling and Trails

Trails throughout the region are mostly shared use and cater to cyclists, horse riders, runners and walkers. The Barossa has 12 local trails and three national trails passing through it. Gawler and Mallala have one local trail each. The national Kidman Trail passes through Light Regional Council¹¹.

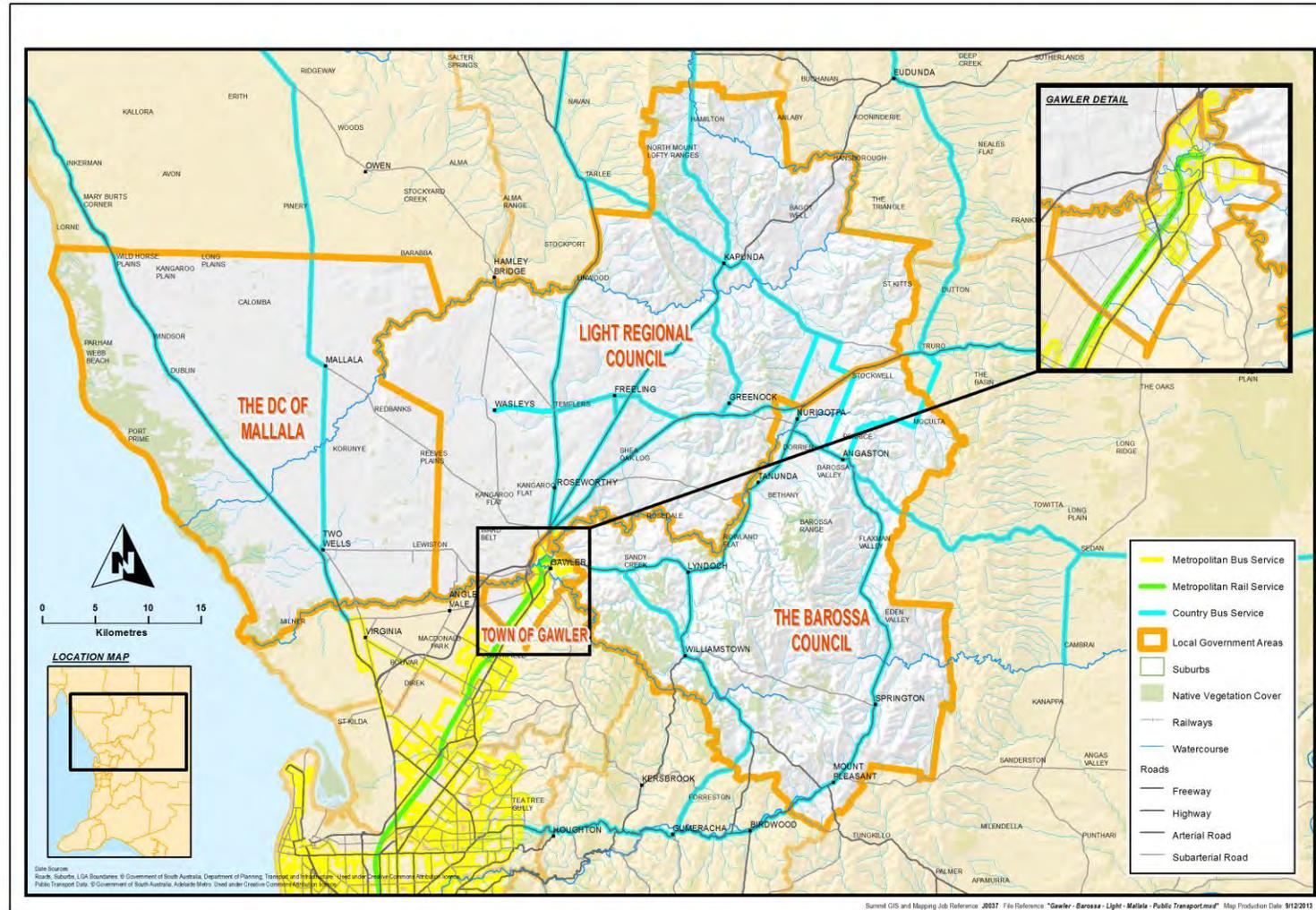
The majority of local trails are contained within The Barossa Council due to that area's strong focus on tourism and wineries, and the nature of the topography and landscape but some pass through the neighbouring Light Regional Council. The 27 kilometre Jack Bobridge Track is a major shared path between Tanunda and Gawler which follows the North Para River corridor and railway line, with links to tourism venues and attractions.

Opportunities exist to further develop trails along disused and existing rail routes as these are direct in nature and offer opportunity for cycling and access to key townships. The need to ensure more connections between cycle and walking paths and motorised transport is also recognised in the RDA Barossa Roadmap⁸.

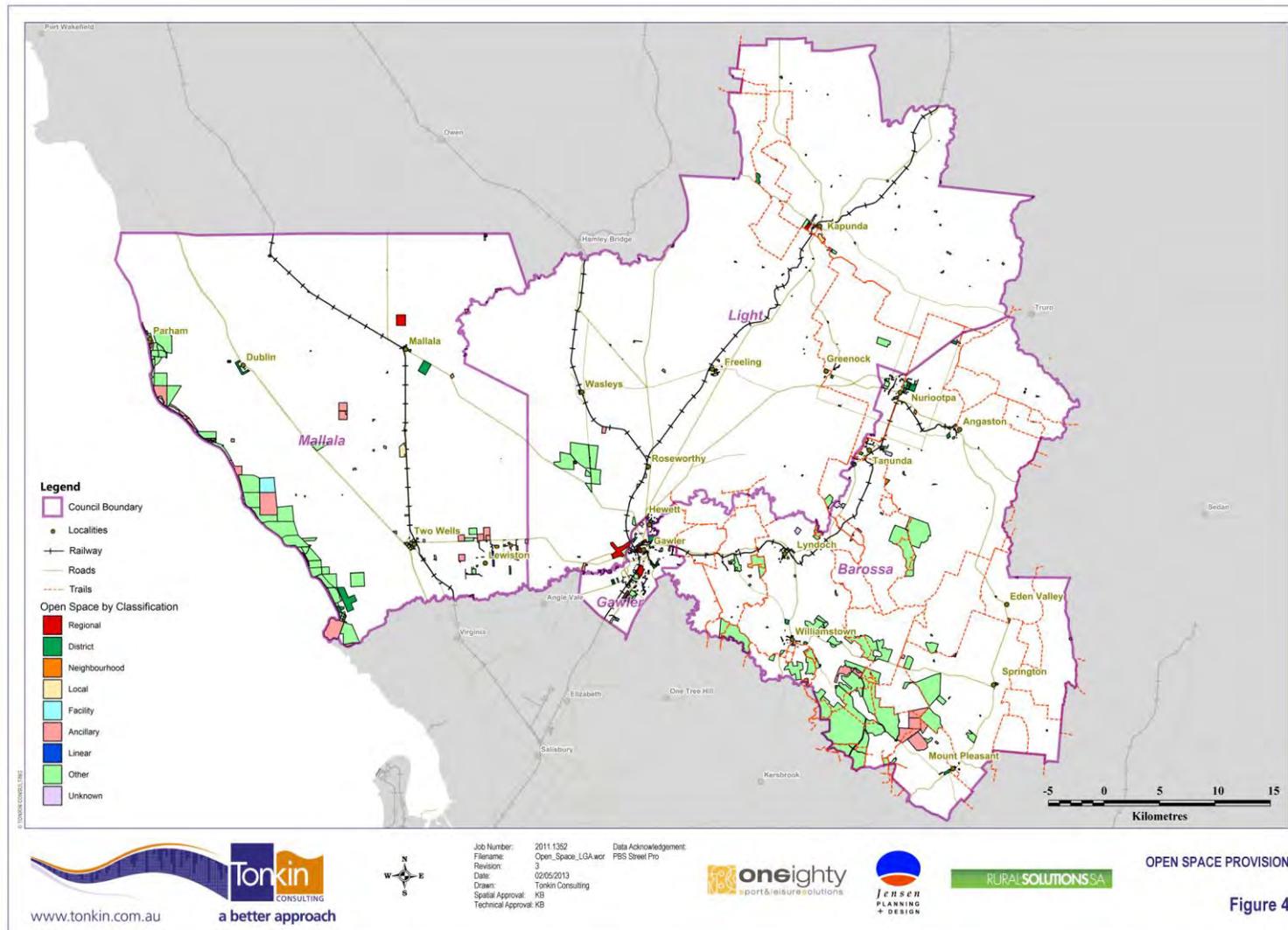
The development of a Barossa Cycle Tourism Strategy 2012 is a region wide initiative of Regional Development Australia - Barossa in conjunction with The Barossa Council and other key stakeholders to capitalise on cycle tourism with existing and developing assets across the region. The Strategy identifies strengths and gaps in infrastructure, products, events and experiences, and contains short, medium and long term priorities to advance cycle tourism across the region⁹.

The Barossa Council has initiated a project to prepare a more traditional urban design framework for Tanunda which will provide guidelines for future public realm development including footpaths, street furniture and the like. An element of the project will be a master plan regarding land use and linkages between the Rex Centre, town centre and key pedestrian and cycle movement networks.

Map 5 – Public Transport



Map 6 – Open Space Provision in the Region¹¹



Natural Environment

The Barossa region runs some 80 kilometres from the shores of Gulf St. Vincent east to almost the watershed of the Mount Lofty Ranges. Over this watershed lies the western extremity of the Murray Darling catchment basin. From south to north the region extends from the boundaries of northern Adelaide, through the central Mount Lofty Ranges and up some 65 kilometres, encompassing quality broad acre cropping and wine growing land. The agricultural environment of the Barossa Valley is world renown in its capacity to produce premium wine¹⁸.

On the coast are low-lying saltbush swamp and marshlands, a rich ecological and estuarine environment. To the south east, timbered ranges predominate as private grazing land, the Mount Crawford pine plantation, protected dam catchment areas and conservation areas¹⁸.

The region is within the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resource Management (AMLR NRM) Board and the Board planning sub regions of 'northern coast and plains' (to the west of the region) and 'northern hills' (to the east of the region). The main rivers in the region include the North Para, South Para, Gawler and Light rivers.

AMLR NRM Board planning priorities for these sub regions encapsulate: supporting biodiversity, water resource management and protection, management of remnant vegetation (roadside vegetation and grassy ecosystems) and habitats, facilitating integrated climate change adaptation; restoring northern coast saltmarsh and shrubland system; formal protection of the Light River delta; coastal protection; improving the condition of the Barker Inlet and Gawler River estuaries; protection of migratory shorebirds habitat; promotion of sustainable land management practices, catchment management and biodiversity riparian zones (North Para, South Para, Light and Gawler Rivers) and protection of priority primary production areas¹⁹.

The NRM Board funds a Coastal, Estuary and Marine (CEM) Officer who is hosted by Mallala Council. The CEM Officer works across Mallala, Playford, Salisbury and Port Adelaide Enfield Council areas.

The RDA Barossa Sustainable Environs Committee (BSEC) was established to research sustainable options for the Barossa region. Key focus areas are promoting sustainable energy and water use options and reducing residential and industrial waste. Protecting the region's natural environment, promoting sustainable recreation activities (e.g. protecting vegetation from motor cycles), and integrating biodiversity promotion with recreation trails were key opportunity areas highlighted at the regional 'Physical Environments for Health Forum'.

Climate Change

Accelerated climate change, caused by the enhanced accumulation of 'greenhouse' gas emissions in the atmosphere, has numerous potential impacts to the health and wellbeing of South Australian communities².

'Changes in our climate are likely to have significant impacts on community and individual wellbeing...Direct and indirect impacts could include:

- *Disruption of social networks, and forced migration*
- *Lack of information knowledge and skills*
- *Heat stress during heat waves*
- *Increased risks to life and property as a consequence of greater and more frequent extreme events such as bushfires and flood*
- *An increase in the frequency in vector-borne infectious diseases such as Ross River Virus*
- *An increase in air pollution (e.g. from dust and bushfire smoke) that may increase respiratory diseases and allergies*
- *An increase in the frequency of water and food-borne infectious diseases*
- *A reduction in food production and nutritional quality*
- *Physical and mental health consequences that occur as a result of some direct or indirect impacts, such as drought.*

*In South Australia, heat related deaths are likely to take the highest toll, particularly with an ageing population, which is generally less tolerant to heat.'*²

There is also increasing evidence that communities and groups that are disadvantaged or vulnerable will be most impacted by the health impacts of climate change².

The Barossa, Light and Mallala Councils were part of the region covered in the Central Local Government Association's Climate Change Vulnerability Study²⁰. The vulnerability assessment considered the exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity to climate change impacts across the region. The study considered the impacts of forecasted increase in temperature, reduced rainfall and sea level rise on the region. The study highlights both the direct and indirect social and public health impacts of climate change on the region. These include the direct impacts of extreme weather events such as heatwaves (in particular on more vulnerable groups in the community such as older people and lower socio-economic households). Gradual climatic changes and increased drought conditions has the potential to impact on agricultural productivity and the economic conditions and wellbeing of residents working in this sector²⁰. There is significant public health infrastructure in the region, such as wastewater treatment schemes, which need to be designed and managed to consider predicated climate conditions.

Coastal settlements in the region are also vulnerable to the impacts of sea level rise. The University of South Australia (UniSA), School of Natural & Built Environments was commissioned by the District Council of Mallala to undertake work on a Coastal Settlements Adaptation Study in May 2013. The aim of the study is to identify and evaluate potential sea level rise adaptation strategies for the coastal settlements in the Council. The intent is to clearly define the benefits, risks and estimated costs associated with realistic and achievable adaptation options²¹.

Emergency Management

The region needs to be prepared for potential emergency events which may impact on the area. Potential emergency events recognised for the area include bushfires, flooding, extreme weather, fuel and electricity shortages, animal and plants diseases and public health risks (human epidemic/pandemic and food and drinking water contamination).

Environmental Health Protection

The regional Councils play an important role in undertaking environmental health protection functions to manage the risk of communicable diseases such as:

- Food-borne diseases - illnesses caused by eating food contaminated by bacteria, viruses or toxins such as salmonella or botulism.
- Vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Vector-borne diseases - transmitted to humans by an organism, such as a mosquito or tick, that carries disease-causing micro-organisms from one host to another.

Under the *SA Public Health Act 2011* medical practitioners and diagnostic laboratories are required to notify SA Health of cases (including deaths) suspected of having or diagnosed with notifiable conditions (i.e. notifiable communicable diseases)¹. The Department of Health and Ageing may call upon Environmental Health Officers to assist in the investigation of notifiable diseases within their Council area.

The State of Public Health for South Australia, reports the following with regard to communicable disease trends²²:

- There has been an overall increase in the number of communicable disease notifications to the Department for Health and Ageing, with an average of 12064 notifications per year during 2008-2012, compared to 6791 notifications per year during 2002 to 2007.
- In 2012, there were 6545 new notifications of sexually transmitted diseases and blood borne viruses. This figure represents a 27 per cent increase in the number of new notifications compared to notifications received in 2008.
- During 2011 the Department investigated over 260 communicable disease outbreaks including 17 suspected foodborne outbreaks.

Councils receive monthly confidential communicable disease reports for their areas. There is opportunity to request regional level reports on annual communicable disease statistics for use in future state of health assessments.

Food Security and Safety

Food security and safety is of key importance for supporting public health in the region. With potential for growth in intensive horticulture in the region, the District Council of Mallala and the City of Playford (in partnership with the Natural Resource Management (NRM) Board, PIRSA, and Regional Development Australia) have committed to the Virginia and Northern Adelaide Plains Horticultural Study. The study aims to promote the sustainability of the horticultural sector and to prevent interface issues between horticultural activity in the region and urban land use.

The region is renowned for its local quality food supply. Preserving clean and green food production in the region is important for sustaining the food production sector and associated tourism. Promoting access to healthy food options and further establishment of local farmers markets is considered a key public health opportunity for the region. Enforcing safe food standards, through the administration of the Food Act 2001, is a key role of Council Environmental Health Officers (EHOs). The growth in the popularity of food markets has resulted in an increase in the number of home based food preparation businesses established solely for the sale of items at market events. The notification of such businesses requires ongoing monitoring by EHOs.

Table 5 shows the number of food premises notified for each regional Council.

Table 5 – Operating Food Premises

Council	Food Premises 2012-2013
Barossa	305
Gawler	188
Light	149
Mallala	90
Total	732

Water Resource Management

Sustainable water resource management is important for supporting local agriculture, industry and amenity. Infrastructure for water distribution and re-use is critical to the development of the region. The Councils aim to support water re-use and minimise water used for irrigation.

The Barossa Valley is a prescribed water resource area under the *Natural Resource Management Act 2004*. The area's annual extraction data for 2010-2011 indicates that half of the water used in the area is sourced from underground water (the upper, lower and fractured rock aquifers), with the other half obtained from surface water resources including surface water (11%) and watercourse water (39%). The Water Allocation Plan for the area prescribes limits on the location and volume of water held in farm dams to maintain adequate flows within the North Para catchment ²³.

The Light Regional Council agreed to execute the Gawler River Water Project at its December 2013 Council meeting. This is a key regional project involving Commonwealth and State stakeholders as well as the four regional Councils. The project seeks to initially harvest approximately 2.2GL/annum of urban stormwater from the Gawler River and surrounding areas, making use of a Managed Aquifer Recovery bore field providing storage and retention prior to distribution back to Local Government Authority reserves in the region.

The \$20M funding announcement for stage one of the project occurred in August 2012²⁴. Light Regional Council is also progressing development of the Supplementary Water Supply Schemes for Freeling and Kapunda (SWSSFK) project.

Mallala Council is investigating the opportunity to bring Bolivar water into the district during winter, through the Northern Adelaide Irrigation Scheme (NAIS) project. The NAIS project aims to provide recycled water infrastructure to receive over 12 GL of reclaimed water from the Bolivar and Two Wells wastewater treatment plants and deliver it to surface storage for a new 2000 ha Northern Irrigation Area. The scheme has the potential for creating an intensive horticulture industry that is in line with the State's clean green food priority. The opportunity also exists for the NAIS project to connect to the Gawler River Water Project to further enhance water availability within the region.

Protecting public health and the environment through enforcing proper standards of wastewater management (in accordance with the SA Health On-Site Wastewater Systems Code) is a key role for EHOs in the rural Councils. EHOs manage on-site wastewater system applications and system inspections. Application numbers are provided in Table 6.

Table 6 – Waste Water System Applications/Inspections

Council	Applications (2012/13)
Barossa	200
Gawler	11
Light	111
Mallala	169 (<i>inspections 2012-2013</i>)
Total	491

Council managed community wastewater management schemes are located in various towns across the region. New schemes are proposed for the Mallala and Two Wells townships in Mallala Council.

Solid Waste Management

Councils support public health through the provision of regular waste management services. Waste collection is important for maintaining amenable, safe and sanitary environments. Managing waste responsibly and minimizing waste to landfill through reduction, re-use and recycling is a key focus for all four Councils.

The Central Local Government Region of Councils developed a Regional Waste Management Strategy in 2008 to coordinate waste collection and disposal arrangements. The Central LGA Region includes Mallala, Light and Barossa Councils. Mallala Council is also currently preparing a Waste Management Strategy.

Addressing illegal dumping and supporting safe and sustainable waste management practices for the agricultural sector are also focus areas in the region. The Barossa, Light and Mallala Councils support the DrumMuster program (a recycling initiative for farm chemical drums). Each Council also supports recycling of electronic waste.

Waste transfer stations are located at Mallala, Two Wells and Springton.

Kerbside waste collection statistics are provided in Table 7.

Table 7 – Kerbside Waste and Recycling Statistics 2012-13

Council	Waste (tonnes)	Recyclables (tonnes)	Green Organics (tonnes)
Barossa	4544	2058	683
Gawler	4511	1940	1487
Light	2240	972	936
Mallala	1290	553	260
Total	12585	5523	3366

6 Considerations for the Public Health Plan

The Barossa, Gawler, Light and Mallala Councils are ideally placed to work with key community and government agencies, to provide a regional environment which supports good health. A review of the region’s social, economic, built and natural environment, through a public health lens, highlights a number of challenges and opportunities for promoting community health and wellbeing. These are summarised in the following sections.

6.1 Community and Cultural Wellbeing

Challenges	Opportunities*
Social	
Areas of high social disadvantage and remoteness within the region	Recognise areas of social disadvantage and remoteness in Council service and facilities planning
Education and Lifelong Learning	
Attaining high school tertiary education	Advocacy and support for current youth education and employment programs
Equitable access to life-long learning	Promotion of current library based education: lifelong learning, literacy, volunteerism, digital access
Community Strengths	
Promoting community strengths	Support and recognise volunteers Promote vibrancy - promotion of arts and cultural activities, events and places.
Personal Health	
Mental health and wellbeing- higher proportion rating their health poorly in Mallala, higher rate of mental health problems in Gawler	Assist to raise awareness of current mental health services in the region
Chronic disease risk factors in the community – smoking, obesity, physical inactivity	Regional advocacy and partnerships with the Health Service Sector to facilitate access to lifestyle programs to address chronic disease risk factors Planning urban environments to facilitate physical activity, access to healthy food and discourage smoking. Advocacy for ‘healthy by design’ principles within planning reforms at a State level Review of Council workplace health policies

Challenges	Opportunities*
Early Life and Childhood	
Childhood health risk factors: smoking during pregnancy, obesity, achieving target immunisation rates (particularly for pre-schoolers)	Regional partnerships with the Health Service Sector to facilitate access to lifestyle programs to address childhood health risk factors
	Immunisation (<i>see Health Services</i>)
	Planning urban environments to incorporate 'child friendly' considerations
Health Services	
Health service accessibility (perceived difficulty in accessing services).	Continue current regional advocacy with RDA Barossa: Regional health centre, broadband for the health sector
Health service implications of a growing population and an ageing population profile	Social infrastructure needs assessments for major developments
	Incorporating planning policy considerations for an ageing community
Significant carer population	Recognition and support for carers in the community
Lower immunisation rates for certain groups: pre-school, Aboriginal children	Regional review of immunisation services. Promote awareness campaigns for target groups (pre-schoolers, Aboriginal children)

*These are draft opportunity statements to be considered by the Public Health Plan Project Team in developing strategies for the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

6.2 Economic Wellbeing

Challenges	Opportunities*
Economic Activity	
Strengthen and diversify the regional economic base	Partnership with RDA Barossa to implement Regional Roadmap priorities for economic diversification
	Promote connections between potential economic growth sectors and health and wellbeing: local clean and green food production, recreation and sports based tourism
Re-vitalising main streets and town centres	Incorporation of 'health in planning' principles in main street and town centre projects (recognise dual benefits to public health and local economy).
Broadband access	Support for the NBN roll-out and utilisation by the health sector
	Advocacy for broadband access for economic development, community information access, life-long learning
Employment	
Sustainable employment opportunities	Continued support for regional youth and community employment programs.
	Review of Council policies to support youth employment/work experience opportunities.
Employment opportunities for northern Adelaide	Continued participation in the Northern Adelaide Regional Collaboration to build workforce opportunities for northern Adelaide

*These are draft opportunity statements to be considered by the Public Health Plan Project Team in developing strategies for the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

6.3

Natural and Built Environment

Challenges	Opportunities*
Environments for Physical and Mental Wellbeing	
Addressing obesity, physical inactivity and mental wellbeing through supportive environments	Application of 'healthy by design' guidelines in urban planning projects: value green infrastructure, age friendly
Providing accessible open space, public realm and recreational facilities to meet regional growth	Regional Open Space and Public Realm Strategy
Protection and enhancement of the region's natural environment	Ongoing partnership and programs with the AMLR NRM Board Road-side vegetation management and protection Regional promotion of natural assets Responsible recreation to protect the coastal environment
Accessibility for All	
Accessibility of transport across the region	Community transport for health services Youth transport and mobile services Advocacy for transport services and infrastructure to meet population growth demand and improve east-west linkages
Accessibility for people with a disability	Disability access planning Asset management and urban planning to address needs of people with a disability
Safe and Affordable Housing	
Mortgage and rental stress in some sectors of the community	Commitment to affordable housing provision in new urban developments
Management of housing conditions	Enforcement of development, public health and housing standards
A Sustainable Environment for Health	
Regional water security	Promotion of water recycling (Revision 2045 Project) Regional water re-use projects e.g. the Greater Gawler Water Re-use Project
Minimise energy and resource use	Ongoing research and partnerships with industry in the region Energy use reduction for Council facilities and infrastructure
Waste generation, illegal dumping and safety	Regional strategy for waste management and recycling Enforcement of illegal dumping Promotion of safe agricultural waste management
Environmental Health Protection	
Resources to maintain public health standards: food premises, cooling towers, wastewater systems, drinking water providers, communicable disease investigation	Regional approaches to environmental health education and procedures Advocate for standardisation of enforcement policies, procedures and reporting Education and training on new legislative requirements
Preparing for the Public Health Impacts of Climate Change	
Public health risks associated with potential extreme weather events in the region	Integration of public health in emergency response planning
Public health impacts from gradual climatic changes in the region	Adaptation measures for vulnerable groups in the community (ageing, disabled, farming sector, coastal communities) Planning adaptation with key sectors Surveillance for potential changes to environmental health conditions in the region Protection of regional public health infrastructure

*These are draft opportunity statements to be considered by the Public Health Plan Project Team in developing strategies for the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

6.4 Regional Framework for Public Health

The need for improved regional partnerships for promoting health was a key priority highlighted in the stakeholder forums. Key opportunities raised were:

- Improvement of regional partnerships
- Collaboration on projects
- Information sharing
- Coordination of existing initiatives
- Shared service delivery

Council resourcing needed to manage increasing planning and enforcement responsibilities, may be partly addressed through regional coordination. A section addressing regional governance for public health is therefore recommended for the Public Health Plan.

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Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region
Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
Part C – The Planning Process





Report
Regional Public Health Plan – Part C The Planning Process
Client: Barossa, Light, Mallala and Gawler Councils
Date of issue: 18/07/14
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1. Introduction

In 2013 The Barossa Council, Town of Gawler, Light Regional Council and the District Council of Mallala committed to a regional approach to developing a Public Health Plan as required by the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*.

Public health planning provides an opportunity for local Councils to develop a coordinated approach to promote the health of their communities. The *SA Public Health Act 2011* recognises local Councils as the 'Public Health Authority' for their area. Under the Act, Councils are required to develop Regional Public Health Plans which have regard to issues identified in the State Public Health Plan and which respond to local priorities. Councils have the option of undertaking planning at the regional level in collaboration with other Councils.

This Part C report details the planning process undertaken to develop the Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

2. Establishing a Regional Approach

During August 2013, the Barossa, Gawler, Light and Mallala Councils informed the Department for Health and Ageing of their intent to undertake public health planning for the region incorporating the four Council areas. It was considered that a regional planning process presented the opportunity to:

- More efficiently plan for regional public health issues whilst recognising issues pertinent to each Council.
- Establish a regional approach for engaging community and government stakeholders on public health.
- More effectively advocate for regional priorities.
- Build on existing regional collaboration and projects.

A regional Public Health Plan Project Team was established including the following Council staff representatives:

- The Barossa Council - Ian Baldwin and Peter Morgan
- Town of Gawler – John McArthur and Ryan Viney
- Light Regional Council – James Miller, Craig Doyle and David Hooper
- District Council of Mallala – Gary Mavrinac and Ken Savage

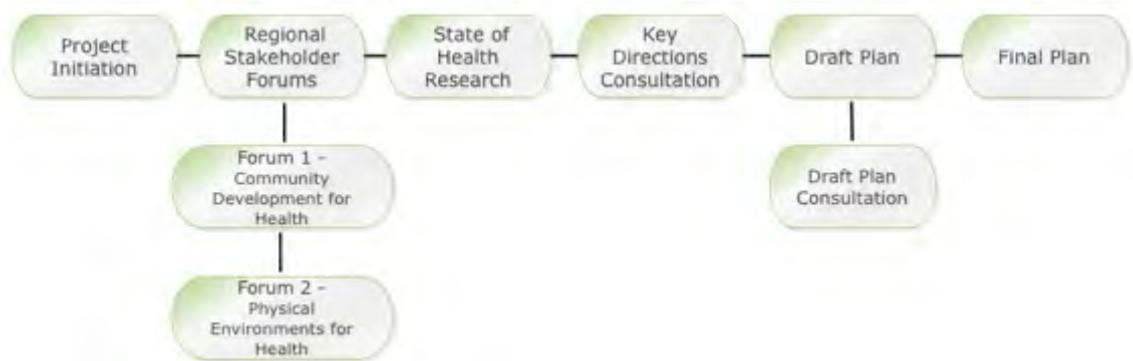
Regional Development Australia (RDA) Barossa was also approached to work in collaboration with the Councils on this project. Charlotte Williams represented RDA Barossa on the Project Team.

Following a tender process in October 2013, Healthy Environs Pty Ltd was engaged by the Project Team to provide consulting services for the development of the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

3. The Planning Process

The planning process for the Plan sought to achieve a 'whole of Council' approach to public health as well as engage external stakeholders in identifying the public health issues and opportunities for the region. The stages of the planning process are summarised in Figure 1:

Figure 1 – The Planning Process



The planning process undertaken is described in the following sections.

3.1 Desk-top Review of Existing Commitments for Health and Wellbeing

A review was undertaken of existing Council and regional strategies which link to the broader social determinants of health and the State Public Health Plan priorities of:

- Stronger and Healthier Communities and Neighbourhoods for All Generations
- Increasing Opportunities for Healthy Living, Healthy Eating and Being Active
- Preparing for Climate Change
- Sustaining and Improving Public and Environmental Health Protection

This review process also assisted to identify linkages to regional and local strategic frameworks and the potential stakeholder partnerships to be explored through the Plan.

3.2 Regional Staff and Stakeholder Consultation Forums

Two Regional Stakeholder Consultation Forums were held during November – December 2013 to discuss public health issues and opportunities for the region. A forum on ‘Community Development and Services for Health’ was held on Thursday the 21st November. A forum on ‘Physical Environments for Health’ was held on Monday the 2nd December.

The forum objectives were to:

- Explore what the region is currently doing with regard to community services for health and wellbeing and planning physical environments for public health.
- Explore future opportunities for improving health and wellbeing in the region.



The forums were well attended and were important for engaging the key stakeholders in assessing the issues, current achievements and opportunities for addressing health and wellbeing across the region.

Reports of the forum discussions are available in Appendices A and B.

3.3 Review of the Regional State of Health

An assessment of key data and information pertaining to the state of health of the Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region was undertaken. The findings are documented in Part B ‘State of Health Research Report’. The State of Health Research Report provides a description of the region across the dimensions of: community and cultural wellbeing; built and natural environment; and economic wellbeing. The report includes a description of data pertaining to personal health and health risk factors for the community. It also summarises some of the current initiatives, key challenges and opportunities for public health in the region.

3.4 Consultation on Key Directions for the Plan

A 'Key Directions' flyer was prepared for broader community consultation on the proposed strategic directions for the Plan. Feedback was sought online and via hard copy feedback forms made available at key Council venues. Key themes from the online feedback, written submissions and comments posted were collated to inform the Plan development. The Key Directions flyer is provided in Appendix C. Nine submissions were received via the online and hardcopy feedback forms. A submission was also received from the Northern Adelaide Medicare Local. A summary of the key themes arising from the community consultation on the Key Directions Flyer is provided in Appendix D.

3.5 Plan Development

The strategic directions for public health and wellbeing in the region (Part A – The Plan) were developed with consideration of:

- The outcomes of the stakeholder consultation.
- The state of health assessment (Part B – State of Health Report).
- The strategic directions of the State Public Health Plan (South Australia a Better Place to Live).
- Community feedback on the Key Directions Flyer.

The draft Plan was submitted to each Council seeking endorsement to release the Plan for public consultation. Endorsement of the draft Plan for public consultation was provided at the following Council meetings:

The Barossa Council – 18th March 2014.

Light Regional Council – 25th March 2014.

District Council of Mallala – 25th March 2014.

Town of Gawler – 8th April 2014.

Draft Plan Consultation

The following tasks were undertaken as part of the draft Plan consultation period (23rd April to 16th May 2014):

- Provision of the draft Plan on Council websites with an online feedback form.
- Distribution of an email to inform the Regional Consultation Forum attendees of the draft Plan consultation.
- Provision of a public notice advertisement about the Plan in local newspapers (refer to Appendix E).

- Distribution of a media release.
- A consultation workshop with the Town of Gawler Elected Members on 28th April 2014.
- Submission of the Plan to the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer (within the South Australian Department for Health and Ageing) for comment.
- Submission of the Plan to the Chief Executive Officer of the Country Health SA Local Health Network for comment.

Community and Stakeholder Feedback on the Draft Plan

Correspondence was received from the Chief Public Health Officer (dated 22/05/14) to commend the Councils on the development of the Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region Public Health and Wellbeing Plan. The correspondence acknowledges that the Plan meets the requirements of for Regional Public Health Plans as outlined in Section 51 of the *SA Public Health Act 2011*.

The following responses were received from community members and stakeholders:

- Completed on-line feedback surveys from two residents of Light Regional Council.
- Correspondence from a resident of the Barossa Council.
- Correspondence from the Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Areas Medicare Local.
- Correspondence from the Chief Executive Officer of the Country Health SA Local Health Network.
- Correspondence from the Barossa Area Health Service Medical Staff Society.
- Feedback arising from the Town of Gawler workshop with Elected members on 28th April 2014, including written submissions from two Elected Members.
- Email correspondence from the Building Officer of the Barossa Council.
- Email correspondence from the Chief Project Officer Policy and Inclusion (Department for Communities and Social Inclusion).

A summary of feedback arising from the draft Plan consultation is provided in Appendix F.

Feedback on the draft Plan was considered by the Public Health Plan Project Team during a meeting held on 19th June 2014. From this meeting final amendments to the Plan were agreed for the Final Plan submission to seek endorsement of each participating Council.

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

The following sections document the points raised during the workshop on 'Community Development and Services for Health' held on Thursday the 21st November at the Hewett Function Centre.

Asset mapping

What work are you already doing in the area that contributes to public health? What facilities are there in the area that contribute to public health?

1. Community Services and Social Infrastructure

Community Support/Development

- Community Centres Lifestyle programs
- Volunteer resource centres/support Volunteering
- Kids Matter program in local schools
- Disability services
- Dyslexia Action Group Barossa and Gawler Surrounds (DAGBAGS)
- Gawler Mental Health Network
- Children's Centres (2)
- Gawler Community Services Forum
- Domestic violence support
- Cultural services
- Library programs
- Literacy programs
- Gawler Show
- Centre based day care
- Places of employment
- Place of residence/home
- Access to information
- Social networks
- Community engagement

Youth

- Youth services
- Youth Advisory Committees
- Gawler Youth Workers Network

Older Residents

- Home assist
- Aged care
- Home and Community Care (HACC) Program
- HACC Community information
- Barossa Aged
- Residential aged care facilities

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

Community Health Services

- Community Health Team of allied health professionals
- Implementing public health policies at an operational level
- Home-based nursing care
- Eat Well Be Active policy (recently discontinued)
- Hospitals – Gawler, Kapunda, Angaston, Barossa
- Medical Centres
- CAFHS
- Mental health
- Developing patient health pathways
- Health promotion

Non Government Organisations (NGOs)

- Mental health/ community action groups
- Service clubs
- Community groups
- Suicide Prevention Community Group
- Small grants
- Grant funding

Community Facilities

- Sporting facilities and ovals
- Swimming pools
- Gawler Swimming Pool
- Local sporting groups
- Sporting clubs
- STARplex Gawler
- Gawler Sport and Community Centre
- The 'Rex' - Barossa Aquatic Fitness Centre, Tanunda
- Schools
- TAFE
- Libraries
- Art Galleries
- Visitor Information Centres
- Waste depots

Open spaces/parks and gardens

- Open space, public realm and recreation strategy
- 12.5% open space
- Barossa H2O to Go (filtered water in 5 public parks)
- Playgrounds
- Beach
- Boat ramp
- Water sports eg fishing and kayaking

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

Transport

- Public transport
- Train service
- Dial a ride
- Community transport
- Walking or bike trails
- Barossa walk and cycle trails
- Bike park
- Bike paths
- Walking paths
- Road safety

2. Planning & Collaboration

Planning Framework

- RDA Barossa Annual Plan and Regional Roadmap
- Structure planning
- Land use and infrastructure
- Density of population (safety in numbers)
- Strategic Planning
- Development Plans
- Community Plans
- Involvement in State Government policy
- Animal husbandry zone
- Large allotments
- Rural area

Health Planning

- Profiling the population health and determinants of health
- Country Health SA coordinating with Medicare Locals
- Country North SA Medicare Local (CNSA ML): education and up-skilling of health workforce, diabetes, immunisation etc.
- CNSAML: comprehensive health needs assessment in progress, due May 2014

Collaboration

- Collaborative partnerships and projects
- Facilitating collaboration between service providers
- Health Advisory Councils (through Country health SA)
- CPN

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

3. Protection of Health, Environment and Amenity

Environmental Management

- Stormwater management
- Waste water management
- Waste management
- Recycling
- Revegetation of creek beds
- Nature reserves

Dog Management

- Bylaws
- Dog dispenser bags

Environmental Health/Amenity

- Water recycling
- Vector Control
- Disease investigation
- Health complaint investigations
- Immunisation
- Safe food
- Safe drinking water
- Dry zones
- Non-smoking areas
- Public toilets

What are the potential barriers to achieving good public health in the region?

Participants were asked to brainstorm collectively and paste comments on a 'graffiti wall'. The themes and individual responses are outlined below.

Income/Job Security

- Unemployment
- Lack of employment options
- Low family/household income
- Lack of money
- Housing stress
- Families with mortgage stress
- Free access events
- High cost of childcare

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

Transport

- Lack of public transport
- Minimal public transport Poor roads
- Not safe to ride bikes to school in view of traffic.

Work/Life balance

- Busy lifestyles
- Time poor

Service availability

- Access to aged care
- Lack of resources for people with disabilities
- Lack of health services in the region
- Lack of access to public spaces
- Local amenities
- Options for young people
- Lack of cultural awareness
- Domestic violence
- Lack of facilities
- GP access
- Gym access
- Lack of health and aged care workforce
- Workforce availability

Social/Economic Factors

- Social isolation
- Geographical isolation
- Lack of social connections
- Fences between houses
- Fear of neighbour
- Housing density
- Lost sense of community
- Ingrained culture
- Negative attitudes
- Poor self-sufficiency skills
- Decreased life skills
- Community expectations
- Low SES
- Intergenerational poverty
- Mental ill-health
- Culture
- Attitude about living/ working regionally
- Low socio economic status
- Social economic climate
- Education

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

- Literacy levels

Environmental Factors

- Farming practice (use of chemicals)
- Feral animals
- Pollution from industries and mines
- Food security
- Water quality
- Barking dogs

Governance

- Governing arrangements
- All the red tape!
- Finance/Budgets
- Lack of funding
- Finances to deliver programs
- HAC/LG Boundaries
- Intensive government regulation
- Government policy and commitment

Information and Technology

- Lack of knowledge about services available
- Health education – personal knowledge, registration, family assistance, Medicare
- No NBN
- Technology limitations
- Modern technology
- Access to IT
- Internet access

Access/Travel

- Distance to public facilities
- Time for travel to specialist care
- Distance to public facilities
- Distance to state government offices
- Lack of access to transport (car dependency)
- Access to facilities
- Lack of transport (4)
- Isolation
- Car dependant
- Community transport
- Walking facilities/ footpaths
- Cycle trails
- Public transport

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

Lifestyle Options

- Fast food
- Cheap alcohol
- Easy access to junk food
- Corporate domination of markets
- Pre-packaged and prepared food versus healthy food
- Basic cooking skills needed
- Processed food
- Access to fresh food
- Lack of exercise
- Media/TV
- Unhealthy media advertising

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

What are the opportunities for improving public health in the region (with a focus on community development and services)?

Service Delivery

- Health screening in public settings (shops, parks, sports venues)
- Outreach clinic services to isolated areas.
- Integration of health and social services across the health care spectrum
- Appropriate resources and funding
- Funding arrangements/ models for immunisation
- Promote local economy.
- Expand services for older people – HACC, active ageing in remote areas

Collaboration/ Integration

- Skills sharing across the region and across industries.
- Cross- silo approach. Regional Council collaboration particularly where residents are crossing boundaries to use services and facilities in other Council areas.
- Across boundary approach.
- Regional inter-departmental forums/gatherings to maintain contact and foster ideas
- Business cooperation
- Local Government Partnerships/ Collaboration/accessing funds
- Closer links between home assistance schemes and local Councils in their promotion materials
- 'WHO with WHO' - Align State Public Health Plan Objectives with each Council's Corporate Plan.
- Partnerships (4)
- Health Advisory Council, Local Government, SA Health, Country Health
- SA, Community members and service clubs,
- Department of Education
- Department of Social Inclusion
- State Government
- Federal Government
- Public and private schools - pre-schools, primary and high schools - TAFE and Universities, local business, employers, consumers, farmers, wineries, vigneron.

Planning

- Data collection: social health atlas, state of public health for
- evidence based planning and service provision
- Central databases
- Information clustering and sharing of data, services, procedures and resources
- Mosaic Indicators, health status of community eg Whyalla
- Sharing information and data.

Community Engagement/Empowerment

- Engaging the community in design of programs.
- Consumer engagement through public health consumer groups. Community engagement – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents, new arrivals, social media.
- Community engagement methods. What are successful?

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

- Engaging hard to reach groups.
- Community passion to spark change
- Foster community responsibility
- Promote social responsibility

Community Programs

- Wineries sponsoring responsible drinking promotions
- Healthy eating/be active programs across age groups
- Midnight sport on a Council site
- Re-ablement and capacity building
- programs as part of home support
- Provide parenting education
- Increase interaction between older and younger residents
- Men's Sheds
- Planning to be old and alone
- Establish community focal points
- Domestic squalor
- enforcement

Information/ Promotion/

- Promotion of what is available to get the
- message out.
- Tell good news stories.
- Talk to people rather than email or phone
- Innovative ways of getting information to the community
- Community branded social media – develop an 'app'
- Regional social media
- Barossa.com doesn't include everything
- App platform for regional service
- Letters, public notices, websites, media release, editorial
- Regional public health facebook page
- Social media
- Community Panel
- Teaching computer skills to help access information e.g. ordering online
- Cross promotion

Events

- Community healthy BBQ for healthy interaction and getting to know your community
- Use community events to promote health
- Field Days, show days
- Pop-up nutrition
- Free pop-up events Promote regional community events via websites
- Health presence at community events
- Up to date e-calendar on a daily basis

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

Food Options

- Gardening workshops
- Community food sharing 'what am I having for dinner' swap with other healthy options
- Healthy food choices using local takeaway facilities
- Produce and other markets
- 'Totally Locally' local produce
- Community markets – wineries, Maggie Beer, Mars Lehmann
- Backyard shopping programs
- Healthy food choice program for the region using star ratings
- Home delivery of fresh food and groceries
- Promote images of food bowl, local and slow food, accessible to all and lower income earners.

Libraries

- Using libraries to educate and inform
- Library resources -books, online, special collections, parenting info-literacy etc

Employers

- Office environments
- Employer led health initiatives for staff
- Workforce health initiatives
- Programmed work activities to be active
- Improve health of the workforce: less stress, work/life balance, free or low cost gym, family friendly hours and support mental health
- Employers to support walk to work and healthy eating
- Personal hand hygiene in schools, childcare centres, OHSC and community clinics.

Active Living

- Safe playgrounds
- Public use of bike paths
- Exercise equipment
- Healthy activity website
- Inter-generational events and walk
- Reduce use of technology and equipment to undertake tasks
- Promote mobility
- Council initiated free exercise activities in parks: zumba, tai-chi, cardio workouts; with regional Council paying for instructor and rotating classes throughout region.
- No age or fitness barrier. Link to existing facilities such as REX and STARplex
- 'Communitisation' of other regional projects e.g. bike/walk trail
- Have one website across the whole region for bike and walk trails
- Evening walk through your local community
- Health and activity grid – opportunities to suit different people's expectations and ability to participate in healthy activities.

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

What are the key priorities for improving public health in the region (with a focus on community development and services)?

Participants were invited to write down 3 things that they believe are important in keeping people healthy. The whole group then sorted the ideas into themes. The responses below are written verbatim and grouped under key topics.

Vision

- Overall vision to make people happy
- Wellbeing
- Having a collective and integrated vision for public health across the region

Regional Collaboration

- Collaboration for resources, Councils and information.
- Evidence based programs working together in a timely fashion.
- Less talking and more working
- Local governments in the region to work with State and Federal governments on health related programs and issues.
- Break down silos to work effectively across sectors
- SA Health, LGA and Councils BUT set the roles and agendas for public health
- Find a range of ways or vehicles through which we can engage MLs, NGOs, NFPs, LGA and Councils to initiate and support public health plans.
- Sharing information between all sectors.
- Collaborate regionally for healthy eating and activity programs
- Strong partnerships between local government and providers
- Build stronger networks between Government, NGOs and community groups to embrace public health.
- Promote region-wide thinking when involved in service planning
- Collaborative partnerships – there is a lot happening but it's not coordinated.
- Establish effective partnerships that build on existing and new initiatives
- Liaising with specialist health groups to share information.

Food

- More farmers markets
- Better access to healthy food choices in small country towns in the region

Service Delivery and Accessibility

- Providing healthy environments for communities to socialize and share information.
- Explore more opportunities to increase funding and resources.
- Offer a variety of programs that encourage participation from all ages and abilities.
- Re-ablement (restorative health)
- Passive and recurring recreation programs.
- Council providing fitness in open spaces with regular classes which are fun, free and healthy to bring community together (Cost to council minimal – Instructor fees for Zumba, Cardio, and Tai Chi)
- Establishment of a State and Federal Government office in the Barossa e.g. for family assistance, registration and Medicare.
- Foster facilities for accommodation and transport for older people.
- Public Transport
- Decrease social isolation

Appendix A – Report of the Community Development and Services for Health Forum

- Better transport opportunities for older, infirmed and house bound people.

Education/Promotion

- Health Promotion through partnerships
- Using libraries and their contacts to disseminate information.
- Link public library network with SA Health to distribute information and promote health priorities
- Think innovatively about 'hard to reach' communities to target appropriate and respectful interventions
- Promotion of a healthy lifestyle – diet, exercise, interests.
- Local Government-led public health awareness and promotion
- Better promotion in a more fun and eye catching way
- Indoctrinate better lifestyle and healthier choices among younger people
- Activate communities through a range of events and pop-ups for links to healthy living.
- Enable employers to assist their employees to improve their health and wellbeing – family friendly, standing desks, less stress, day care.

Community Engagement

- Community participation and taking ownership
- Seek communication methods and strategies to get the community engaged
- Community driven action and engagement with the community to ensure programs and projects meet their needs and expectations
- Community engagement and partnership – two way knowledge sharing

Appendix B– Report of the Physical Environments for Health Forum

The following sections summarise the points raised at the workshop on 'Physical Environments for Health' held on Monday the 2nd December at the Hewett Function Centre.

Current Projects and Initiatives for Public Health in the Region

What current work and planning contributes to public health and wellbeing – in the context of the physical environment?

Regional Initiatives

- NGO Groups
- RDA Regional Open Space Strategy
- Coordination of open space planning and management across the region.

- Northern Adelaide Waste Management Authority Regional landfill (Uleybury)
 - Regional transfer station (Edinburgh North)
 - Project planning for future waste and water, recycling/gas.
 - Kerbside waste collection. Education.
 - Green organics recycling.

- Regional Development Authority
 - Water security plan
 - Water recycling project
 - H2O Project – Barossa Drinking Water Stations (Barossa Council/CHSA)
 - Barossa Community Labyrinth (Barossa Bushgardens – Nuri)
 - RDA Regional Freight Plan – Road Safety

- Community Services Forums (SPOKE) – Barossa and Gawler

- Dept Planning Transport Infrastructure
 - 30 year Integrated Transport Land use Plan (future investment in transport planning).
Community transport plan

- Community Action Formation of a Dyslexia Action Group.

Barossa Council

Environmental Management and Sustainability

- Natural Resource Management Initiatives
- Recreational facilities (Warren Reservoir)
- Community
- Waste Facility Closure Plans
- CWMS – collection and treatment
- Water Reuse – treated wastewater
- Roadside vegetation management
- LED Lighting – Tanunda Main Street
- Dust control – unsealed roads

Appendix B– Report of the Physical Environments for Health Forum

- Solid waste management – transfer stations

Healthy Environments: Food, Physical Activity, Accessibility, Amenity etc

- Open Space Review
- Accessibility (DDA)– roads, footpaths, buildings
- REX (Regional Recreation Centre)
- Cycling and walking trails
- Cycling hub
- Playground upgrade/open spaces
- Trees and streetscaping – urban and rural

Development and Infrastructure Management

- Strategic Directions Review
- A bevy of development policies and development assessment
- Township design frameworks
- Stormwater management plans
- Quarry services and supply

Safe Environments

- Emergency Management
- Bushfire Prevention
- Safe and Convenient Road Design (ARR)
- Building Fire Safety
- Reduction of road trauma through speed and road improvements
- Flood mitigation

Community and culture

- Management of local events

Other

- Source of knowledge and expertise to community
- Officer expertise – planning, building compliance/inspections
- Community facilities building and management
- Nurioopta Centennial Park Facility

Light Regional Council

Environmental Management and Sustainability

- Native vegetation Planting programs
- NRM/LG Projects
- Gawler water re-use project, water security.
- Freeling wetlands upgrade
- Hard waste/E waste collection
- Hazardous waste collection

Appendix B– Report of the Physical Environments for Health Forum

- Wasleys Rec Park Irrigation

Healthy Environments: Food, Physical Activity, Accessibility, Amenity etc

- Open Space and Public Realm Project
- Barossa Signage Initiative
- Dog park and play space Hewett – Bike Path/Track

Development and Infrastructure Management

- Dutton Park: Master plan, animal enclosure
- Roseworthy garden town – Roseworthy Alliance
- Rail to Roseworthy.
- Neil Avenue, CWMS Upgrade
- Samuel Road Funding
- RV Friendly Town –
- Kapunda Rail Trail Project
- Greenock Main St Project
- Pines Reserve Project
- Park range Estate Freeling
- Vic/Library Revamp- Kapunda

Community and culture

- Kapunda
- Event Space Infrastructure
- Funding stimulus – community grants, institutes
- Kapunda Mine Site – Tourism and Community Development
- Volunteering

Other

- Various local government functions: planning, building etc..

Gawler Council

Environmental Management and Sustainability

- Waste management – regional resource collaboration – street cleaning
- Gawler Water Reuse Scheme
- Environment
- Street Tree Management

Healthy Environments: Food, Physical Activity, Accessibility, Amenity etc

- Swimming Pool – 50m
- upgraded
- Regional Open Space Strategy
- Local Sport and Rec Master Plan
- Skate Park

Appendix B– Report of the Physical Environments for Health Forum

- Provision of open space
- Cycling and walking trails
- Bus Shelters
- Bike Hub
- 2008 walking and cycling plan

Development and Infrastructure Management

- Murray St Upgrade
- Animal Management Plan
- Rural land use Investigation
- Town Centre Strategic Framework
- Town Character DPA
- Town Centre Master Plan
- Stormwater Management Plan
- Urban Rivers Master Plan
- Traffic and Transport Management Plan
- Depot work – cleaning, park and gardens
- Footpath replacement
- Precinct Project
- Reid Reserve Project
- Tapa Pariara

Safe Environments

- Bushfire hazard reduction
- Murray St CCTV
- Unsightly properties Dilapidated buildings

Community and Culture

- Events - Gawler Show
- Outdoor dining
- Community Plan
- Youth Plan
- Precious Souls Memorial
- Evanston Gardens Community Centre
- Library expansion to southern areas

Other

- Compliance services

Mallala Council

Environmental Management and Sustainability

- Coastal Management: general action plan, coastal access strategy, community support, walking trails
- Roadside Marker System: native vegetation

Appendix B– Report of the Physical Environments for Health Forum

- Coastal Settlement Adaptation Study -Climate change impacts
- Waste Management Strategy - public/commercial waste, illegal dumping, recycling, landfill minimisation

Healthy Environments: Food, Physical Activity, Accessibility, Amenity etc

- Horticulture Study – joint investigation with City of Playford
- Food security
- Water use
- District open space and community lands management plan -ovals, playgrounds, parks and reserves
- Regional Open Space and Public Realm Strategy

Development and Infrastructure Management

- Quarry management
- Capital works program - road and footpaths, stormwater
- Two Wells Stormwater Management Plan -water re-use, town protection – levee?
- Community Wastewater Management Scheme Asset Management Plan - Mallala CWMS – proposed, Middle Brach CWMS, Two Wells CWMS - proposed
- Rural Addressing System
- Two Wells Residential Development - service standards, walking trails/bike tracks, playground open space, future high school
- Transport Asset Management Plan
- Building and Recreation Asset management Plan
- Development assessment
- Two Wells Town Centre – DPA, Redevelopment
- Asset protection/maintenance
- Parham and Mallala Oval

Safe Environments

- Update of Light River Management Plan
- Gawler and Light River Flood Plain DPA
- Regional Emergency Management Plan - Light River, Gawler river, Salt Creek. Flooding bushfire, extreme weather, extreme heat, internal contingency plan

Community and Culture

- Undertaking Lewiston Community Study – Investigating community focal points.

Other

- Short term stay facilities
- Employment of a Planning Compliance Officer – physical appearance, sub-standard living conditions (i.e. sheds), enforcement of conditions (landscaping).
- Animal Management Plan
- Economic sustainability

Appendix B– Report of the Physical Environments for Health Forum

Future opportunities in terms of planning, process and integrating health and wellbeing into future thinking - what are the gaps? “Collective Group Brainstorm”

Community Capacity for Health

- Realistically understanding and accepting community needs
- Political influence
- Managing Perceptions (actual vs perceived risk)
- Social enterprise and participatory governance
- Harnessing and supporting the benefits of community groups
- Meaningful engagement
- Engaging communities in services and knowledge of services
- Identifying vulnerable and isolated communities
- Celebrate differences

Environments for Health

- SA Planning module for health in design
- Bring practicality to development assessment
- Engaging with developers in ‘healthy by design’ principles
- Asbestos management
- Regional linkage -East-West and tourism
- Sustainable funding opportunities
- Sustainable recreation facilities
- Measuring and evaluating the social benefits of infrastructure
- Regional power generation opportunities
- Community transport in the regional context (non-urban areas)
- Recreational trails becoming biodiversity corridors
- Future Regional Waste Management Strategy
- Look at major asset investment regionally
- Engineering meeting the arts (a multi-disciplinary approach)
- Determining the how/process mechanisms.
- Designing accessible infrastructure for all
- Partnership approach to urban development

Regional Collaboration

- Regional partnerships for health and well-being
- Rationalisation of service delivery
- Collaboration
- Human resources to deliver on public health – shared services
- Allocating resources
- Reviewing case studies



Have your say in this important project

Have your say.

Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region Key Directions for Public Health and Wellbeing

The Barossa Council, Town of Gawler, Light Regional Council and the District Council of Mallala, in association with Regional Development Australia (RDA) Barossa, are working together to develop a Public Health and Wellbeing Plan for the 'Barossa, Light and Lower Northern Region'. The planning process is an opportunity for the councils to develop a coordinated approach to promote the health of their communities. Community feedback is now sought on the proposed key directions for the Plan.

Regional Strengths and Issues for Wellbeing

The Barossa Light and Lower Northern Region (incorporating the four local government areas) has a population of approximately 66,800 and is expected to grow to about 170,000 over the next 30 years.

The region is diverse and incorporates sparsely populated coastal areas, prime broad acre cropping land and the wine producing Barossa Valley. The economic base of the region is agricultural and connected industry –predominantly linked to the wine industry. Other contributors to the economy include tourism, mineral extraction, retail and education. RDA Barossa, in association with the four councils, recognises 'health and wellbeing' as a key priority for the region.

Two key stakeholder forums were held during November - December 2013 to discuss key public health issues and opportunities for the region with a particular focus on community services and physical environments for health.

These forums highlighted opportunity for the Regional Health and Wellbeing Plan to harness regional strengths to promote better health, such as:

- Regional collaboration and action across a variety of areas (including open space planning, climate change, community services and emergency management).
- Natural environment and biodiversity.
- Quality recreational facilities.
- Open space and trails.
- Town character and amenity.
- Community action for health through various community groups and council services.



The Plan needs to consider the key social health issues facing the community, including:

- Areas of social disadvantage.
- High school attainment and employment opportunities for youth.
- Chronic disease risk factors in the community including higher levels of obesity and smoking than the metropolitan average.
- Smoking levels amongst pregnant women.

The need to address social isolation and promote overall community wellbeing (happiness) and connections was a key challenge proposed at the stakeholder forums. Councils will also need to control disease through maintaining their functions in environmental health and protection.

Have your say.

- What does a healthy community mean to you?
- What do you consider to be the community health and wellbeing priorities for the region?
- What key issues or opportunities would you like reflected in the Regional Health and Wellbeing Plan?

Proposed key directions for Health and Wellbeing

Community feedback is sought on the following proposed directions for the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan:

- Establishing a framework for regional partner collaboration on public health.
- Promoting access to healthy food.
- Supporting health education and promotion through Council libraries and facilities.
- Supporting capacity for community driven action.
- Integrating health considerations into urban and infrastructure planning.
- Regional planning delivery and opportunities - open space and recreation, waste management, community transport planning, shared health protection services.
- Promoting social interaction through main street vibrancy, community hubs and events.
- Advocating for community access to health and community services.
- Preparing for the public health impacts of climate change and emergency events.
- Creating local employment opportunities.
- Planning age and child friendly environments.



Appendix D – Feedback on Key Directions Consultation

Feedback on the Key Directions Consultation Flyer is summarised below:

What does a healthy community mean to you?

- Better border protection against contagious diseases.
- Reduced crime.
- Healthy food.
- Places to go and relax.
- Less reliance on cars - more walking opportunities.
- Walking and cycling paths our townships (and linking them together).
- Shopping centres closer to residential areas (ie walk to shops)
- Strong, supportive and connected community with good awareness of and access to, health services and good capacity to live and breathe well being through good health practices. Sharing of knowledge for the greater good of the community.
- Looking after each other with respect and tolerance
- Services in Kapunda
 - Opportunities for people to be actively engaged (e.g. transport, employment, training and recreation)
 - Civil pride
- A strong sense of community spirit
 - A community that is well supported by health services e.g. (sterilisation health issues, we have adequate sporting facilities, clubs, swimming pool, but it's only a few people who use these facilities. You cannot force people to join in.
- Good sporting facilities
- Safe bike paths throughout townships that link to more major bike paths (ie. Barossa, Northern Expressway bike lanes)
- Shady trees
- Green areas/spaces – believe this is very important for mental health and positive outlook
- Open spaces – rural feel-not suburban style developments
- Strong inclusive community groups
- Positive ageing – places for older residents to live to keep them in our community (ie Lifestyle villages – not necessarily nursing homes)
- A place for all ages
- Better equipped to stay out of hospitals etc.
- A community where individuals are well both in body and soul and where these individuals have access to facilities which ensure the
- Happier people

What do you consider to be the health and wellbeing priorities for the region?

- Looming jobs crisis.
- Adequate service for all kinds of medical problems in particular mental health which is not being addressed.
- - Elimination of drugs across the community (e.g. in Kapunda there is a high prevalence of marijuana use & underage drinking)
 - General concern there will be major reductions in services provided at Kapunda hospital (e.g. removal of the sterilisation service in Kapunda Hospital)
 - Transport is very limited, making it difficult for those who don't have their drivers licence to access services, jobs etc. in surrounding areas
 - Region needs more job opportunities
 - Generally, there is not much to do in rural communities
- Effective without adequate funding from state and federal governments who receive the lions share of tax funding.

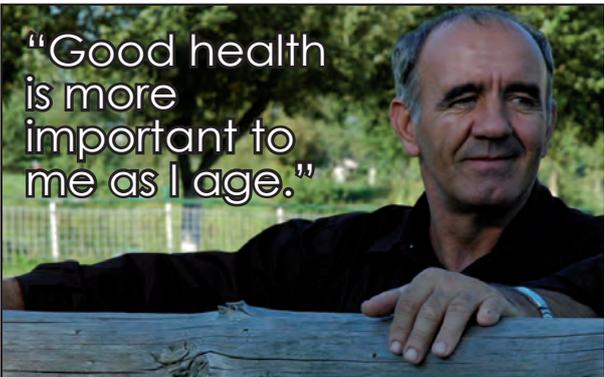
Appendix D – Feedback on Key Directions Consultation

- Do not remove Kapunda Hospital sterilising facilities.
- Safe bike paths/walking paths
- Ageing in community
- Good water reuse to ensure townships are green and healthy – better mental health for residents
- Good clear and concise local waste management systems
- Access to fast public transport to get us out of our cars and increase our daily physical activity.
- Address cooking skills
- Improved access to quality fruits and veggies
- Address location of fast food outlets close to schools
- Maintenance of the mental and physical well being of each individual.
- Councils cannot resource all initiatives
- An accessible, affordable well run recreational facility
- Some affordable and accessible mental health services.
- A good local hospital and a well run and accessible libraries.

What key issues or opportunities would you like to see in the regional Public Health Plan

- Collaboration between councils ie waste management, recycling programs, support for community hub focused events/ projects that promote vitality/ revitalisation in town areas.
- Healthy eating programs that may include shared community produce days so people get to learn skills of cooking and cheap eating. Activities that utilise the shared walking paths and get families involved.
- Free bike hire days, free days to the swimming pools etc that enable social inclusion and community building.
- Utilising community groups to help run events or partner is a great way to manage costs and facilitate community building.
- This is already happening in the region so again promoting each councils strengths that exist now but with a greater emphasis on working collaboratively is the key.
- Assured ongoing services for everyone, secure medical services
- - Transport
- - Access to services (Services SA, youth services, health services)
- - Increased job opportunities
- - Better policing & intervention for drug use in the community
- Endorsement of a commitment to fund bigger and better recreational facility ie. The Rex
- Maintaining and building on our local hospital system.
- Better mental health facilities in particular for substance and alcohol abuse.
- Maintaining a good library system with access to information on health issues and services.

Appendix E – Public Notice Advertisement



Good health is everybody’s business!

That’s why Barossa, Light, Gawler and Mallala Councils are asking for public feedback on a draft Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The Plan will provide a strategy for promoting health and wellbeing through council functions and partnerships with key community stakeholders.

It outlines a vision to help the community live well through regional collaboration, community participation, planning, education and regulatory enforcement.

Barossa, Light, Gawler and Mallala Councils are working with RDA Barossa to ensure the plan reflects community priorities.

After extensive consultation with stakeholders, a draft plan is now complete and aligns with both the new State Health Plan and the existing strategic plans developed by these councils.

Members of the public are invited to give input by **May 16** by contacting their respective councils:

- **District Council of Mallala:** Telephone 08 8527 0200, Email info@mallala.sa.gov.au
- **The Barossa Council:** Telephone 08 8563 8444, Email barossa@barossa.sa.gov.au
- **Light Regional Council:** Telephone 08 85 3200, Email light@light.sa.gov.au
- **Town of Gawler:** Telephone 08 8522 9211, Email council@gawler.sa.gov.au



Appendix F – Feedback on the Draft Plan – Key Themes

Council/ Region	Respondent	Feedback - Summary Themes
Region	Office of the Chief Public Health Officer <i>Correspondence dated 22/05/14</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commendation on the development of the Plan. • Confirmation that the Plan meets the requirements of Section 51. • Acknowledgement of regional issues summarised in the 'state of health'. • Commitment to supporting the implementation of the Plan and partnership building through the Public Health Partnerships Branch and the Local Government Relations Team.
Region	Country Health SA Local Health Network Chief Executive Officer <i>Correspondence dated 13/06/14</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commendation on the development of the Plan. • Support for regional networks recommended in the Plan. • Responsibilities require clarification. • Need to modify reference to Medicare Locals in future (to reflect future changes to MLs). • Consider access to fresh drinking water and public toilets across parks and gardens. • Promote neighbourhood development for promoting wellbeing. • Further clarification needed in relation to advocacy for regional health services.
Region	Policy and Inclusion DCSI - Chief Project Officer (email correspondence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a mention of people with disability under the section on Community and Cultural Wellbeing. • Potential opportunity to develop a Disability Discrimination Act Plan across the same region.
Mallala and Gawler Council areas	Northern Areas Medicare Local Chief Executive Officer <i>Correspondence dated 23/05/14</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supportive of proposed measures. • Supportive of commitments to address the social determinants of health. • Opportunity to address needs of vulnerable groups, CALD community, new arrivals. • NAML has become a public health partner authority under the <i>SA Public Health Act 2011</i>. • Interested in the Stakeholder Reference Group.
Town of Gawler	Elected Members (Workshop and email correspondence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a new action or modify an existing action to advocate for and contribute to the provision of sufficient aged care facilities and accommodation through use of policies, Development Plan etc. • Ensure that measures and strategies are achievable and realistic within the scope of Local Government's role (comments against certain strategies throughout the Plan). • Highlight the varying nature of Council roles e.g. Coordinate, Regulate, Facilitate, Advocate. • Incorporate actions to advocate for areas in need where Council can't action or influence. • Recognise that a large number of agencies, not for profits and community groups and Health Advisory Councils (Gawler, Barossa and Eudunda and Kapunda) share a large number of roles in delivering health services for the region.

Appendix F – Feedback on the Draft Plan – Key Themes

Council/ Region	Respondent	Feedback - Summary Themes
Light Regional Council	Resident (online feedback)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for continued stakeholder consultation. • Stakeholders to be consulted on service adequacy and accessibility. • The area requires new businesses and ongoing support for businesses. Need to ensure equitable access to health and well being services. • Ensure that the needs of the Indigenous population are considered.
Light Regional Council	Resident (online feedback)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive. • Regarding commitment to 'provide facilities and infrastructure to promote recreation and physical activity'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Capitalise on work undertaken at Wasleys Recreation Oval. ○ Opportunity to use the oval for an Active After Schools Community initiative. ○ A walking/bike trail along the rail corridor is another way to achieve this commitment.
The Barossa Council	Council Building Officer (email correspondence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights various opportunities in relation to Disability Discrimination Act Action Plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social engagement opportunities, physical activity programs and meeting place opportunities. ○ Improved social, educational and physical outcomes through effective learning, development and social programs. ○ Incorporate a health and wellbeing checklist for planning community events. ○ Support flagship affordable events to celebrate diversity and inclusion in the community. ○ Enhancements to arts and cultural facilities and services to increase community access and equity of opportunity. ○ Promote Council's employment policies and practices to show leadership and provide work placement & training opportunities for people experiencing disadvantage.
The Barossa Council	Barossa Area Health Service Medical Staff Society (BAHSMSS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAHSMSS represents the GPs who provide services to the Barossa community. • Recognise significant areas within health responsibilities that GPs share with the local Council. • Recognise importance of working together to ensure the best possible health opportunities, outcomes, and services for the community. • Urges the Barossa Council to continue to lobby for a much needed and long awaited new hospital for the Barossa Valley. • The BAHSMSS can work together with the Barossa Council, to help further plans for a new hospital.
The Barossa Council	Resident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern regarding the lack of dialysis facilities in the Barossa. • Highlights the financial and other pressures that this issue places on carers of those requiring dialysis treatment (provides a personal account of experiences) • Concern that there are no transport concessions/buses for renal patients.