



# Light Regional Council

## SOCIAL PLAN

2006 – 2016  
Edition 1

**Objective:** To plan, coordinate and implement the social, community and health infrastructure necessary for the enhancement of the physical, social and cultural amenity of our region.

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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The Light Regional Council Social Plan is an important tool in identifying, analysing and responding to a variety of social and community needs.

Planning Council's social agenda obligations ensures as far as possible that the services Council supports are appropriately targeted towards identified need. Social planning also assists the community in identifying and substantiating a range of needs that are broader than the Council's own service base.

The Social Plan documents a number of key challenges facing Council. These include:

- The need to give greater attention to the requirements of our ageing population;
- The imperative to give our young people more opportunities locally;
- The need to identify the opportunities to overcome disadvantage and inequity within the regions communities as they present themselves.

Through the Social Plan the Council aims to promote community participation in the planning of services, to clarify roles in addressing social and community needs and openly account for the priorities and directions of activities.

Using the Social Plan, Council aims to support the community with an effective tool for their own use in understanding the social and community issues in their areas. For State and Commonwealth Governments we hope the Social Plan will support greater understanding of the needs of the region.

### **The role of Council**

Responding to the needs of the community is a large part of Council's business, one of the three broad activity areas alongside the environment and the organisation. Social and community issues overlap with virtually all aspects of Council business, including:

- Library services
- Arts and cultural development
- Strategic planning
- Urban design, residential planning and development control
- Roads and transport
- Parks, reserves and open space management
- Recreation and sporting facilities
- The environment and public health

Council's primary role in relation to social planning is the development, monitoring, evaluation and review of the Social Plan. The role that Council plays in implementing the Plan will depend on the specific issue/need seeking to be addressed. It must also be acknowledged that the financial resources available to implement the Plan are limited and therefore need to be targeted towards areas of greatest need. Council is only one stakeholder engaged with social and community issues in the region and therefore will not be responsible for implementing all strategies. Many issues/needs will require the involvement of other stakeholders or the acquisition of specific resources. Each specific strategy therefore needs to identify Council's role in relation to implementation from one of the following potential roles:

- Coordination – ensuring the strategy is implemented by coordinating a range of stakeholder participation.
- Advocacy – systemic and structural advocacy on behalf of communities for additional resources or improved responses.
- Resourcing – utilising Council's resources to implement the strategy. Such strategies would also need to be identified in Council's future plans to ensure appropriate budget allocations are made.
- In Collaboration – Working together with other key stakeholders to maximise service delivery.

### **The role of Council's Community Development Officer**

One important initiative of Council has been the establishment of a Community Development Officer (CDO) who supports advice, input and recommendations to Council on social planning and related matters as well as assisting in the identification of social and community needs across the region. The CDO will take measures to increase the level of community ownership of social planning in the region including representation of a range of stakeholders and different groups within the community.

As well as over-seeing the development of the Plan the CDO will play an important overseeing role in terms of monitoring the implementation and achievement of objectives and strategies.

### **Rationale**

Council supports few human services and acknowledges the need to be involved in the facilitation; development and sharing of appropriate relevant services that meet the needs of its scattered community.

The facilitation of the Social Plan intends to meet the needs of the community and focuses on older people, families, (including youth), health and social development.

The aim of the Plan is to give direction to:

- Promoting equitable and sustainable services.
- Developing a basis for well-informed advocacy for the community

- Promoting an integrated approach to health development across the region.
- Reviewing the role of local government in aged, youth, family and health and human services in the current environment.
- Positioning the Council to take advantage of any State or Commonwealth funding.

## **Strategic Directions**

In discussing where to start with a strategy for the Light Region, it seems very important to take a broad system approach to change and a neighbourhood approach. Working in this way would reflect the principles of long-term sustainable change; building on existing strengths; and partnerships.

In framing the strategic directions for human services, much of what is needed and many of the policy and program interventions do not rest solely within a human services framework. Other areas, such as adequate housing, transport, childcare, employment and education, will also have an impact on improving outcomes for the community as well as being central to good health outcomes.

The role of partnerships with, non-government sectors, employment and skills/training agencies, community sector, employers and business and private funders are critical – not relying on government alone will be explored and implemented.

## **Target Groups**

The Local Government Association has specified a number of mandatory target groups which must be included in the Social Plan alongside other target groups identified as a priority within a local government area and of course the needs of the general community. The use of target groups does not replace the need to focus on the general needs of the community or the needs of other specific groups; rather they ensure that the needs of disadvantaged or vulnerable members of the community are not overlooked.

Target groups include:

- Children and families
- Young people
- Women
- Older people
- People with disability
- People from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander backgrounds
- People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

## Families

Essential economic and social conditions for families to flourish are adequate income; access to good and affordable childcare and schooling; and the availability of appropriate social services including adequate housing and health services. All have an impact on family well being. Therefore the preconditions for creating a healthy environment for families and children are:

- Family supportive employment conditions
- Supportive environments for effective parenting
- Supportive environments for family growth
- Youth support networks

Light Regional Council must be pro active in supporting considerable networks of services that contribute to family well-being. Together with government funding, programming and services an integrated approach to planning to develop positive and effective strategies to assist families.

## Older Persons

By the year 2021 effectively one in five South Australian's will be aged over 55 and the greatest increases will be in the 85 years and above age group. The projected population increases highlights significant differences within and between regional areas, with the northern region predicted to have the largest population increase. There has been a shift from the middle and inner suburbs to outer areas. These outer areas tend to have decreased density as compared to inner suburbs resulting in greater isolation and decreased access to services for older individuals.

The medium and long term implications of a rapidly ageing population is that a series of interconnected social and economic strategies must be explicitly developed, implemented and monitored in relation to clearly stated outcomes. Given the emphasis on the ageing population in the light region it is critical to address those circumstances that will encourage this to occur: the appropriateness/affordability of housing, availability of transport and improved coordination of services.

## Health

Health has been defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO: 1986) as

‘A state of complete physical and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity’<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The bibliographic citation for this definition is: Preamble to the constitution of the World Health Organization as adopted by the International Health Conference New York, 19 June – 22 July 1946; signed on 22 July 1946 by the representatives of 61 states and entered into force on 7 April 1948. The definition has not been amended since 1948.

This all-embracing definition of health supports opportunity for the achievement of broad community health goals and individual potential. Health is seen as a positive concept emphasising social and personal resources as well as physical capacities.

South Australians as a whole enjoy a good level of health and a range of health services, but in regional areas there remains considerable work to be done in relation to accessing health promotion opportunities.

Discussions with service providers identify that the demand for health services outstrips availability of supply due to suburban services accommodating people from regional areas, especially in areas of mental health.

Service providers reported that one of the biggest issues they face is that the majority of clients experience multiple disadvantages. The total number of clients in this situation ultimately impacts on the overall operations of the service.

Key aspects of the Department of Human Service Portfolio's Strategic Plan (2002 – 2005) relating to health improvement, which are relevant to northern regional human services, include a stated commitment to improving the well being of vulnerable populations groups.

In order to have gains in population health and well being Council needs to strive in a health promotion manner. An approach is needed which recognises that all levels of government, organisations, workplaces, schools and communities need to create the conditions for health.

### **Light Regional Council at a glance**

- Light Regional Council is a regional community spread over an area of 1,277 square kilometres. There are five major towns and approximately 20 small ones with farms interspersed between them.
- The 4 wards are, Mudla Wirra, Laucke, Dutton and Light. The areas within these regions are:
- Mudla Wirra Ward: Gawler River, Ward Belt, Gawler Belt, Kangaroo Flat, Woolsheds and Pinkerton. Wasleys and Roseworthy have the highest population within Mudla Wirra.
- Light Ward: Templers, Fords and Linwood. Kapunda and Freeling and have the highest population in Light.
- Laucke Ward: Rosedale, Gomersal, Langmeil, Dorrien, Marananga, Moppa, Nain, Daveyston, Seppeltsfield and Shea-Oak Log. Greenock has the highest population in Western Barossa.
- Dutton Ward: Neukirch, Koonunga, St Kitts, Bagot Well, Hamilton and Allendale North.

- At the ABS 2001 Census the population of the Light Region was 10,201. The population has grown and in June 2005 12,016 people resided in the Light region; Council has continued to experience strong growth in all sectors including residential, commercial and industrial development.
- The region is characterized by continuous urban development to a large degree in Hewett and smaller developments in Roseworthy, Freeling and Kapunda.
- Older residents: According to the light region community profile the population of people aged 65+ (1082) at the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001 Census, was 10.7% of the total population. The population of people aged 65+ years is expected to double by the year 2016.
- Under 65 years: According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census 2001: There were 2351 people living in the Light Region aged 0 to 14 years which is 23.2% of the total population. 1263 people aged 15 to 24 years, which is 12.4% of the total population. 3051 people aged between 25 to 44 years, which is 30.1% of the total population. 2402 people aged 45 to 64 years, which is 23.7% of the total population.
- With major residential developments in the region, especially in Hewett, the population figures are predicted to increase significantly, consequently putting added pressure on existing services.
- Residents from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds: A significantly low proportion (13.9%), of the regions population was born in a non- English speaking country according to the 2001 Census. The most commonly spoken languages at home other than English, were German and Dutch.
- Indigenous residents: 86 identified themselves as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders, according to the 2001 Census data.
- Residents with disabilities: According to the ABS *Disability, Ageing and Carers* data, approximately 18% of South Australians are identified as having a disability. Data indicating the percentage of people with a disability expected for the light region was not available.

## Summary of Key Goals

The Social Plan suggests implementation strategies to enable identified objectives to be achieved. Whilst the range of objectives contained in the plan is diverse there is a number of over-arching priority goals which these objectives aim to meet:

1. Build on strengths of our communities to enable them to be more resilient and self-sustaining.
2. Ensure there are minimum benchmarks of services, which respond to the social health and well-being needs of people through out the region.
3. Forge more effective partnerships within Council and with external stakeholders to create a shared vision of community needs and collaborative responses.
4. Plan better for our communities as they change and develop with a particular focus on preparing for the needs of a growing aged population and expanding the opportunities for young people.

## Specific Objectives

Each section in the Plan canvasses a range of key community issues and needs. From these needs key objectives have been developed and listed below. For each specific objective, strategies and actions have been developed to document how it is proposed that the objective be achieved.

The initial draft of the Social Plan requires further community and stakeholder consultation to:

- Decide who is responsible for ensuring the strategy is implemented and who the potential stakeholders are;
- Define the roles of stakeholders in implementing the strategy and how the strategy will be resourced;
- Develop timelines for initiation, implementation and completion and what level priority the strategy has;
- Establish performance indicators which tells us how to measure success or otherwise.

A public information session was conducted at Council to identify priorities within the Plan and the consensus of the meeting was that the following objectives be prioritised in the following order from 6 being the highest and 1 being the lowest:

1. Priority with a score of 6
  - **COMMUNITY SERVICES** - Contribute to the development of a cohesive community where people of all ages have access to a range of community programs, facilities and services that are relevant to resident and regional needs.

2. Priority with a score of 5
  - TRANSPORT - Develop a coordinated approach to transport issues that integrate social and community issues.
  
3. Priority with a score of 3
  - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT –Ensure the development of services in accordance with local needs and to promote community participation in the planning, management and delivery of services to the community.
  - YOUNG PEOPLE – Promote services, facilities and programs for Youth and advocate for youth employment opportunities within the region.
  
4. Priority with a score of 2
  - COMMUNITY GRANTS - Assist and encourage community groups to conduct projects that benefit residents in the Light Regional Council and which foster opportunities for community participation and development.
  - DISABILITY - Enhance the capacity of people with a disability to participate fully in community life.
  - OLDER PEOPLE - Advocate for housing and accommodation options that are affordable and suitable to the needs of older people within the light region and Increase community support in the promotion of health and well being for the aged.
  
5. Priority with a score of 1
  - HUMAN SERVICES - Enhance human services for improved outcomes and increase the capacity to promote quality of life.
  - COMMUNITY EDUCATION - Promote learning amongst the Light community.
  - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Coordinate effective economic development initiatives and employment support strategies.
  - FAMILIES AND CHILDREN - Respond to needs of children and their families.
  - VOLUNTEERS - Increase awareness of and mobilise support for volunteers.

## **Social Plan Objectives**

**Objective 1:** Coordinate effective economic development initiatives and employment strategies.

**Objective 2:** enhance human services for better outcomes and increase the capacity to promote quality of life and to distribute resources in a changing environment and strengthen the culture of working together to support sound management.

**Objective 3:** Contribute to the development of a cohesive community where people of all ages have access to a range of community programs, facilities and services that are relevant to resident and region needs.

**Objective 4:** Promote learning amongst the Light community.

**Objective 5:** Advocate for housing and accommodation options that are affordable and suitable to the needs of older people within the light region

**Objective 6:** Encourage the participation of older people in educational, recreational and cultural pursuits.

**Objective 7:** Improve access to services, information and support structures.

**Objective 8:** Increase community support in the promotion of health and well-being for older people.

**Objective 9:** Advocate for youth employment opportunities within the region.

**Objective 10:** Enhance coordination and development of the youth sector.

**Objective 11:** Promote services, facilities and programs for youth.

**Objective 12:** Respond to other needs of young people.

**Objective 13:** Develop a coordinated approach to transport issues that integrate social and community issues.

**Objective 14:** Enhance the capacity of people with a disability to participate fully in community life.

**Objective 15:** Promote, facilitate and develop cultural opportunities and events within the region.

**Objective 16:** Provide an environment where leisure, sport and social activities and services meet the diverse needs of people of all ages.

**Objective 17:** Play a lead role in the development of a “safe” community for all residents.

**Objective 18:** Increase awareness of and mobilise support for volunteer programs.

**Objective 19:** Ensure the development of services in accordance with local needs and to promote community participation in the planning, management and delivery of services to the community.

**Objective 20:** Celebrate and promote cultural diversity in the region.

**Objective 21:** Respond to needs of children and their families.

**Objective 22:** Assist and encourage community groups to conduct projects that benefit residents in the Light Regional Council and which foster opportunities for community participation and development.

**Objective 23:** Measure and increase sustainability.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 What is Social Planning?

Social Planning is one way to identify and respond to the needs of communities within the Light Regional Council by linking social objectives to strategies and actions aimed at achieving those goals. Broadly speaking social planning is similar in approach to any other form of strategic planning, however it has specific focus on social and community issues. Social and community issues are very broad terms and encompass:

- Funded community or “welfare” services.
- Unfunded or voluntary organisations.
- Community development and coordination activities.
- Community facilities and amenities.
- Issues relating to social capital, social health or community well-being and capacity.
- Issues that enable or limit participation in community life.
- The cultural and artistic pursuits of a community.
- Sporting and recreational activities.

There are areas of significant overlap between social planning and other planning jurisdictions such as the environment (built and natural), economic development, urban development, local area planning, recreation and reserve planning, the arts and public health. For this reason social planning needs to be coordinated across a range of Council activities so as to achieve a more integrated approach to planning for the needs of the community.

This is Council’s first Social Plan and anticipates that it will be an evolving process and an important first step in documenting and coordinating responses to social and community need.

The purpose of this plan is to:

- Improve the ability of Council to take into account the range of needs within the community in formulating management plans.
- Assist Council to support or advocate for appropriate and accessible services and facilities for the benefit of the community.
- Increase the community’s ability to monitor Council’s efforts to address the needs of local communities over time.

## 1.2 Council's Vision

Councils' Vision is:

"A vibrant growing area supported by quality infrastructure and services that meet community needs and maintain our unique lifestyle".

In a very similar vein its Mission statement is:

"To service our growing community by supporting cost efficient and effective services and quality infrastructure to maintain and enhance our rural lifestyles".

- Light Regional Council's Mission is to ensure that the light region is a progressive, attractive and prosperous area while maintaining for the citizens such amenities and services that will support a quality of life of the highest standard.
- Community planning and Coordination Function – Council plays an important role in supporting a focus for planning and coordination of services and facilities supported by Government agencies, voluntary and community groups. Council also supports direct and indirect support and assistance for sporting, cultural and recreational facilities.
- Participating Functions – Council supports channels for community participation in policies and decisions.
- Service functions – The provision of a wide range of property and "people" services, such as refuse collection, water supply, sewerage, drainage roads, public health, libraries, recreation, toilets, parks, environmental health, street lighting, community services, etc.
- Community Service Goal – To support services to the community that will maintain and improve the quality of life.

The need for a consolidated plan grew out of the commissioned Helen Smith Report<sup>2</sup>, stakeholder, community and specific organisation consultations and the Community Service and Facilities Report<sup>3</sup>.

Light Regional Council's Social Plan outlines the region's community development strategy for creating liveable, vibrant and secure communities. In order to promote

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<sup>2</sup> Helen Smith Report - Helen Smith was commissioned by the Light Regional Council in October 2003 to develop a Community Services Study for the Light Region. The report outlined the findings of research undertaken on community services provided in the area and made recommendations for implementing a community services model to assist Council in the facilitation and coordination of services.

<sup>3</sup> Community Service and Facilities Report is a report written by Council's Community Development Officer which identifies benchmarks in the facilitation of community and health service provision, ascertains perceived needs in the area of community services and recommends how to best meet community identified needs.

community development and create liveable neighbourhoods, Council recognises that partnerships with the community are vital. The Plan encourages collaboration and community empowerment in 6 primary areas:

1. Provision of needed human services
2. Crime prevention
3. Aged care policy
4. Youth policy
5. Disability strategy
6. Children and families strategy

Local government needs to take a more comprehensive approach to solving neighbourhood problems in partnership with community members, through collaboration and community empowerment.

The Plan identifies a clear vision for the area's community development future and suggests projects to help achieve it.

Council defines liveable community as one where:

- People feel safe
- Opportunities are available for learning and working
- Human services are accessible
- The environment is healthy and attractive

It is where people are unified by their appreciation for the uniqueness of their community and through partnership, trust and respect.

### **1.3 What is a community?**

When we talk of a community we often have in our mind a geographic location. Families, local neighbourhoods, school communities, communities that form around local clubs or interests are examples that come to mind. In addition many communities extend beyond geographic areas – for example, extended families, ethnic, business and religious communities, as well as people related through a common idea, goal or interest.

In working towards a healthy community these groups are important because it is the links between them and individuals that foster and grow as a healthy community develops.

### **1.3.1 Vision and strategic solutions**

In reviewing community service operations of Council and the future needs of the community, Council has identified 19 major areas as being significant to the long term well-being of the community. These are:

1. Economic Development
2. Human Services
3. Community Services
4. Community Education
5. Older People
6. Young People
7. Transport
8. Disability
9. Cultural services
10. Sport and Recreation
11. Crime Prevention
12. Volunteers
13. Community Development
14. People from culturally & linguistically diverse backgrounds
15. Families and Children
16. Community Grants
17. Evaluation
18. Funding

### **1.3.2 Issues and problems**

1. Bringing social concerns into the planning process.
2. Lack of clear understanding of Council's role and responsibility in planning and delivery of social services.
3. Lack of adequate information on assessing human needs and evaluating effectiveness of social service programs.
4. Need for improvement in coordination between agencies in the public and private sectors to insure that services appropriate to community needs are developed.

### 1.3.3 Goals and principles

The Social Plan is a long-term strategy with a structured approach to policy and program development, including monitored projects and commitment to acting on the outcomes. Four long-term goals have been identified as a basis for such a strategy:

- To improve health status
- To improve integration and coordination of services, including services by government, non-government sector, and private and volunteers sectors.
- To develop more responsive and effective methods of delivering services.
- To address service gaps, including youth and the aged.

Principles that will drive this strategy include:

- Sustainability: Effective long-term community change requiring capacity building that can be sustained over the long term.
- Leadership: Strong and effective leadership required to enable positive and effective change.
- People-oriented system: Focus of the strategy will be about placing the needs of people first and 'enhancing quality of life'.
- Continuation of Care: Existing community service strengths are identified and built upon.
- Strong partnerships: Strong partnerships are important for improved planning and for building capacity of regional, neighbourhood and individual levels.

This Social Strategic Plan will assist Light Regional Council meet their responsibilities for social development<sup>4</sup>, and demonstrate strategies to achieve this.

### 1.4 What makes communities function well?

All communities that function well, people of all ages and backgrounds feel that:

- They belong to the community
- Their skills are recognised as important to the community
- They are useful members of the community

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<sup>4</sup> Local Government Act (1999) recognizes the more complex environment in which governments now work and specifies clearly the triple bottom line (economic, social and environmental contributions) that now encompasses local government policy and work. The Act identifies the role and function of Council's in relation to community and social services and in relation to community capacity building in the context of partnerships with other levels of government.

- They can make their voices heard in the community.

Such communities of people exist throughout geographic communities; they exist in families and schools, between friends and neighbours and in businesses and service clubs. These communities affect the individuals in the group but also facilitate the creation of relationships between groups, which build networks that help the community function well.

If people feel they belong to a community they are more likely to look out for their neighbours, to take care of the public appearance of the neighbourhood and welcome more people into the community. If people feel that they are useful in a community and that their skills are recognised they are more likely to use those skills to contribute to the community's well being and share those skills with others. If people feel that their voices are heard within the community they are more likely to work to advocate for change on behalf of themselves and others.

#### **1.4.1 Consolidating Planning Principles**

3 fundamental planning principles to encourage collaboration and community empowerment are:

- A consolidated approach to addressing community problems
- Empowering people to help themselves
- Bottom up planning

Consistent with this emphasis on bottom up planning Council has updated its Strategic Plan to determine how the region will accommodate its share of growth as predicted in the 'Terry Bell Report.'<sup>5</sup>

A specific challenge of Council is its ability to strengthen the role and involvement of the business community in its community based partnerships.

#### **1.4.2 Consolidated approach to address community problems**

Light Regional Council envisage that the regions current resources, assets and geographic location support and point to a community of the future that will serve as a model of citizen empowerment.

Local residents must be a fundamental component of this community vision.

Before this step can occur, the community must overcome several obstacles, including lack of child care services, transportation, coordinated access to social services and the availability of venture capital for new business start up and business expansion.

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<sup>5</sup> Terry Bell Report –Kellogg Brown & Root Pty Ltd were commissioned by Council in 2005 to report on the future development and sustainability of Light Regional Council.

The Plan includes measures that will increase the educational preparation by addressing training and job preparation, childcare and other social issues in one integrated local plan.

The Plan focuses on the need for coordination of economic, health and human services, education, transportation, physical development plans, community betterment, recreation and tourism at the local level. Local partnerships fully involve the effected community. Council will continue to take stock of assets and problems, create a vision for the future, and structure the Social Plan to achieve its community vision.

## **Making the Plan**

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### **2.1 Needs Analysis**

Local Government today supports a range of community services that, not that many years ago, were considered not to be a council's responsibility. Council's traditionally were expected to focus on "roads, rates and rubbish".

Today, Local Government is expected to become more involved in community development – social, economic and environmental development. This responsibility is often seen as vital to the survival and development of the area, as quite often local government is the only organisation willing and/or capable of accepting such a challenge.

When undertaking the needs analysis, Council was very mindful that "needs based planning" can be fraught with peril in that the distinction between wants, needs and rights of the community underlies the type of response that Council may take to address the identified issues. Council believes that it has an obligation to meet its residents' rights, a responsibility to meet their needs and an option to meet their wants.

The community needs analysis undertaken aimed to clarify what residents of the region want, assess which needs and rights should be recognised and indicate which community facilities, services or programs can best meet these.

In addition, underlying medium-term objectives of the process included:

- Developing communication links within the community
- Enhancing the community's sense of identity
- Developing the capacity of the community to cope with change
- Fostering the development of community organisations and services

#### **2.1.1 What did people say? - Community Consultation**

Quality consultation and engagement are building blocks for good governance. Local Governments that inform consult and listen to their local communities and who are engaged and participate in their governance, make for healthy democracies and involved citizens.

Council recognises that this work is in essence a snapshot of the community's needs and should be treated as a dynamic and evolving process that will change as the needs of the community change. Council believes that assessment of community needs is an ongoing process and our activities will reflect that fact.

Council also understands that not all proposed solutions to identified needs would be direct responsibilities of Council. In fact, on many occasions Council will play an advocacy or facilitatory role in the provision of any such solutions.

The consultation process undertaken has assisted Council in its planning and added value to this community plan. It is worth noting that the community needs analysis is in accordance with the Social Plan.

The Social Plan has been developed following an extensive consultation process undertaken in line with Council's 2001/2006 Strategic Plan Item 31 & 35, Specific Action 1.1, namely

*Carry out an audit of the local community to identify community and cultural services required.*

The consultation process involved a survey of residents and was titled "A Caring Community in Action." Residents were asked to make comment about access to services, aged services, crime prevention, cultural services, and people with disabilities, tourism, transport and youth.

Twelve Consultation Workshops were held, two in each of the following towns: Kapunda, Freeling, Greenock, Roseworthy, Hewett and Wasleys. These took the form of a daytime and evening meeting; this was to allow participation by as many residents as possible

This is a flavour of what was said: (A reduced summary)

- 'We need better youth facilities including a youth centre and employment service.'
- 'Improve local transport'
- 'Build a town square'
- 'Outdoor pool popular but in need of upgrading and increased access for young people'.
- 'The town hall is struggling to operate as a profitable community facility and a fresh look at the marketing of the hall and its long term future as a business would be welcomed'.
- 'Want a cinema and better shops'
- 'More entertainment especially for young'
- 'Childcare Centre'
- 'Skateboard park competition'
- 'Better policing\keep ambulance service & hospital'
- 'Link employment development to local resource'
- 'Develop new and more environmentally aware industries'
- 'Link to education'
- 'More information about available transport services'
- 'Towns need more facilities, shops and recreation'
- 'Make more of arts potential'
- 'Develop tourism sensitively, not to overwhelm local character'

### **2.1.2 What are our assets?**

The community consultation produced various strengths that were acknowledged and can be developed further.

- Recreation areas
- Heritage

- Main street upgrade
- Tourism
- Space to develop walking routes
- Local hospital
- Playground
- Libraries
- Skate parks

### **2.1.3 Strengths**

- Kapunda has an exceptional setting
- We like living in a small regional town, recognise and safeguard this asset
- Improve links and routes
- Good sporting tradition, lots of clubs
- Visitor information centre
- Greening groups
- Local landscape
- Space within town to develop cycling and walking routes
- Local arts and crafts community and activity
- Tourism
- Library

### **2.1.4 Opportunities**

- Local desire to improve quality of life
- Improvement of public transport

### **2.1.5 Weaknesses**

- No gym
- Limited transport
- Lack of emergency, respite and aged accommodation
- No community centre
- Lack of entertainment, especially for young
- Failing memberships of some community groups
- Ageing infrastructure

### **2.1.6 Threats**

- Employment
- Migratory population
- Ageing population

From an analysis of the issues and direct learning about the community's capacity, this vision has been further developed into the following medium term solutions.

- Establish a community based strategic group with the capacity of coordinating strategic regeneration action to:
  - Revitalise the Kapunda town centre and support local enterprise

- Social enterprises
- Kapunda town hall revitalisation
- The development of peoples skills
- Develop and promote an integrated transport system
- Improve community and youth facilities, including establishing a Youth Café and developing a community centre
- Enhancing fitness by developing fitness alternatives.

### 2.1.7 Methodology

The methodology used to develop this plan was to investigate community needs using a combination of:

- **Expressed needs** – those stated by residents themselves (predominantly wants which in fact can be needs or rights). Methods used – focus group meetings in the areas of youth, aged and disability; consultations with appropriate service providers in the areas of health, housing, education, aged care, youth, sport & recreation and children's services.
- **Indicative needs** – those that are indicated by characteristics of the community. The Australian Bureau of Statistics' Community Profile (2001 Census) was a primary source of information.
- **Normative Needs** – those derived from applying benchmarks or recommended levels of service provision
- **Comparative Needs** – those suggested by comparison of the community to others that are similar in some way, including health, education, aged care, youth, transport, sport & recreation, legal & safety, telecommunications & technology, infrastructure and culture.

### 3. Action Plan

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**Goal:** The alleviation of human problems through sensitive planning and effective application of resources, on-going evaluation, and continuing commitment to broadly based and informed citizen participation.

**Objectives:**

1. Effective methods to secure informed community participation at all points in planning resource allocation, and evaluation process.
2. A coordinated human service planning and delivery system that effectively uses all community resources.
3. Parameter and priorities for the application of Council resources in human services.
4. An effective evaluation mechanism to determine the effectiveness of the human service planning and delivery system within Council.

#### 3.1 Implementation strategies and policies

**Strategy:** Council to facilitate the development of plans and the application of resources to meet human needs.

**Policies**

1. Council will support necessary human services indirectly forming partnerships with other community agencies to support services. Every effort will be made to contract with appropriate community agencies for implementation of programs
2. Broad representation and community participation at all levels of planning; resource allocation and evaluation are to be parts of all human service programs.
3. Human services are to be administered in a manner that respects the dignity of the individual and fosters self-sufficiency and individual choice.
4. Development of a method for establishing community priorities in human services within the framework of an overall, long-range plan for meeting human needs.
5. Development of criteria and methods to enable the Council to determine and evaluate the social impact of major physical, environmental, economic and social changes; these criteria and methods to be made available for public evaluation prior to adoption.

## **3.2 Current Council Initiatives**

Whilst the level of community and social need in the region may at times appear daunting, it is important to emphasise the amount of positive work which is already being done within the community and by Council. Current Council initiatives alone include:

### **3.2.1 Services for the Community**

Light Regional Council Community Information Directory – Produced on an annual basis this is an essential directory of social and community services within the region and surrounding areas.

Library Services – Library services have been expanded and now service 4 towns and include access to IT resources and a range of library programs for children.

Recreation and Culture – Council supports and maintains a range of community and recreational facilities including a swimming pool, recreation and sporting grounds, public halls, parks, gardens and playgrounds.

Community Grants Scheme – Council allocates an amount of money each year for Community Grants. Community groups within the region are invited twice a year to apply for financial assistance for projects of community interest and/or benefit. Council is able to support local community initiatives and the development of appropriate programs, services, activities and facilities to meet community need. The Scheme also helps establish mutually beneficial partnerships between the Council and the community in the provision of these services, adding value, improvement and development.

Events coordination – Council is involved in organising, supporting or promoting a range of community events including Youth Week, Australia Day Celebrations, Jacobs Creek Tour Down Under, Seniors Week and Volunteer Day. Council also supports and promotes tourism and other one off major events.

Youth Sponsorship/achievement support program – Council supports assistance to young people under the age of 21 years who display considerable talent in sporting, arts, cultural, environment, science and technology to enable those persons to enhance their talents – whether that is by attending appropriate training and personal development programs, participation in State or National teams.

Community Newsletter – Council publishes a monthly newsletter in the local newspaper 'The Herald'. This is a vital avenue for Council to communicate effectively with the community.

Youth Advisory Committee – the key objective of the Committee is to advise Council on a range of issues affecting youth within the region, focusing on youth policy development, training and employment opportunities, activities and counselling.

Immunisation – Council supports immunisation to the 2 secondary schools within the region and also supports 2 DTPA per year and 1 HEP B in year 8 and 1 DTPA for adults.

### 3.3 Strengthening Community Capacity

Community capacity relates to the capacity of communities in the region to identify and respond to social and community needs. Community capacity is about strengthening social capital, creating sustainable communities able to respond and adapt to a changing social, economic and political environment.

The notion of sustainable communities is constantly referred to in public policy debates for rural and regional Australia. The Premier's Department has taken a lead role in promoting rural renewal. They define a sustainable community as one which:

- Takes an integrated approach to creating a sustainable future.
- Maximises the use of its limited time and resources in areas that will yield the greatest strategic benefits.
- Develops plans that merge social and economic goals and build local capacity.
- Mobilises the community around priorities.
- Harnesses local support and attracts the outside resources needed to achieve its goals.
- Uses its critical mass of cooperating organisations to implement and evaluate locally based initiatives.
- Has strong, inclusive and visionary leadership.
- Encourages active participation, consultation and involvement for community well-being.
- Supports local investment in education, training and lifelong learning.
- Has access to positive and accurate information with which to evaluate its progress in achieving goals.<sup>6</sup>

Light Regional Council believes that this Plan supports one important focus for building sustainable communities in the region. It hopes to build on its partnership approach and ensure all relevant stakeholders are working together towards community identified needs and goals.

Further, Council will support a number of specific strategies that aim to strengthen community capacity:

1. Implementing a stakeholder forum to raise awareness of social and community issues and identify coordinated responses. The forum will be used to canvass stakeholder input on the social plan draft to prioritise goals and establish

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<sup>6</sup> Strengthening Rural Communities Resource Kit, Premier's Department, 2001, p.31

partnerships. Through the use of guest speakers, resource materials and open participation, this forum will aim to further support the Social Plan.

2. Strengthening the work of community-based organisations is a valuable role to be played by Council. This includes helping them to attract the resources they need to respond to social and community issues. Distributing information on funding opportunities and making a community profile available for use can greatly assist organisations seeking funding. Distributing copies of the social plan in CD format is an affordable way to promote its use in the community.
3. Council is also keen to work with other organisations to promote training and development workshops on the essential skills; community groups need to respond to changing needs such as lobbying and submission writing. Council will work to strengthen community-based organisations that incorporate volunteers into their work through the development of a Volunteers Guide.
4. Supporting improved information and resources to the community. This means that many people in the community have low levels of awareness of basic services and forms of assistance available. A lack of knowledge inhibits an early intervention approach as people only become aware of services and options once a crisis sets in.
5. There is a need to explore in the short term the establishment of a dedicated information and referral response in the region – a “one-stop” community centre which can meet general information needs as well as assessing and referring more specialist services.

## 4. Objectives

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### 1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Council will attempt to stimulate our local economy and promote business opportunities in the region.

**Objective 1:** Coordinate effective economic development initiatives and employment support strategies.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
1.1 Development of a Community Economic Development Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of consultation &amp; marketing strategy</li> <li>Development &amp; implementation of a community economic development strategic plan</li> <li>Coordination of sustainable community economic development programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> <p><i>Budget allocation – Community Economic Development</i></p>	Business and Industry Stakeholders  State and federal government involvement	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation &amp; marketing strategy developed</li> <li>Strategic Plan developed &amp; Action commenced</li> <li>Sustainable programs implemented</li> </ul>	
1.2 Development of employment strategies targeting young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with community and business partners to support employment programs &amp; traineeships for young people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> <p><i>Budget allocation – Community Economic Development</i></p>	Business and Industry Stakeholders  Government	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinated approach to employment strategies developed</li> <li>Traineeship program implemented</li> </ul>	

## 2. HUMAN SERVICES

‘Human Services’ refers to clinical and community based physical and mental health services, family and children’s services, youth services, services to the aged, person’s with disabilities and carers, housing and supported accommodation, emergency financial relief and other services targeted at disadvantaged or vulnerable people.

**Objective 2:** Enhance human services for improved outcomes and increase the capacity to promote quality of life. Distribute resources in a changing environment and strengthen the culture of working together to support sound management.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
2.1 Foster cooperation on resource allocations to human service agencies as appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify human resource partners and funding opportunities.</li> <li>Determine what alliances with other service providers will benefit communities in the region and develop ‘trials’ service agreements and joint ventures to address the demand for services and gaps in service provision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i>	Department of Human Services  Department for Communities and Families	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtained funding</li> <li>Developed alliances</li> </ul>	
2.2 Respond quickly and effectively to emerging social issues, human service problems and opportunities for positive change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gain information on trends and issues in human service needs and delivery and thereby improve decision-making.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i>	Barossa and Wakefield SPOKE	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved knowledge of social issues</li> </ul>	

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
2.3 Improve the responsiveness of services to vulnerable persons, including health, aged and community services, family and children, aboriginal services and income security provisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work in partnership to implement proposed strategies as needed</li> <li>• Advocate for increased child care services</li> <li>• Continue to improve general public awareness of assistance programs</li> <li>• Support family based programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocating</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community Services</p>	<p>Barossa Area Community Health Service and Gawler Health Service</p> <p>Department of Human Services</p> <p>Anglicare, Children Mental Health Service (CAMHS)</p>	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater coordination achieved</li> <li>• Childcare facility in Kapunda</li> <li>• Greater informed public</li> <li>• Increased services</li> </ul>	
2.4 Due to continual changes in all areas of health care a continual evaluation must be conducted to determine the level of health care needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake an analysis of human service needs, report to Council and implement findings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocate</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community Services</p>	<p>SPOKE Gawler, Barossa &amp; Kapunda Health service Northern Regions of health practitioners</p>	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased availability of health related data</li> </ul>	
2.5 Support special needs service enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiate service agreements with agencies to support services</li> <li>• Advocate needs to appropriate service providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaboration with stakeholders</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community Services</p>		2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased availability of services</li> </ul>	

### 3. COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Objective 3:** Contribute to the development of a cohesive community where people of all ages have access to a range of community programs, facilities and services that are relevant to resident and region needs.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
3.1 An understanding of services should be developed to eliminate duplication of services, maximum use of resources and overall coverage of all areas of community development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and evaluate community services annually and report to Council.</li> <li>Services tailored to people's individual needs and to be sufficiently flexible to adjust as their needs increase or change.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – community services</p>	<p>Department of Human Services</p> <p>Department for Families and Communities</p>	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual review of community services reported to Council</li> <li>Understanding of needs and services developed</li> </ul>	1 <sup>st</sup> review completed 2005
3.2 Optimise the use of Council owned facilities to ensure improved and equitable access to community services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a feasibility study for the refurbishment of existing Council owned buildings to house services to meet community needs identified in the Community Facilities and Services Report.</li> <li>Report to Council the results from the study.</li> <li>Ensure the community has reasonable access to the use and enjoyment of community buildings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resourcing</li> </ul>	<p>Contractor</p> <p>State Government Agencies</p> <p>DOTARS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management Committee</li> </ul>	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feasibility study completed</li> <li>Results reported to Council</li> <li>Community buildings promoted</li> </ul>	2006 – Feasibility study completed

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
3.2 Optimise the use of Council owned facilities to ensure improved and equitable access to community services. (Continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain economic value of built infrastructure</li> <li>Buildings and facilities that is appropriate for changing circumstances.</li> <li>Services to meet the current and projected future demand for the community</li> <li>Availability of funding for these types of programs in terms of government priorities.</li> </ul>		<p>SPOKE</p> <p>Anglicare, Centacare, Employment Directions, Department of Human Service, Office of Regional Affairs</p>	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Optimisation of buildings established</li> <li>Increased services</li> <li>Funding sought</li> </ul>	
3.3 Develop a regional community facility where people of all age groups can undertake a range of activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A comprehensive plan to be developed that supports a list of improvement, costs and time lines for implementation.</li> <li>Consider relocating existing groups to this facility.</li> <li>Source funding options to implement study recommendations.</li> <li>Pursue funding to establish and operate a regional community facility.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resourcing</li> <li>Budget allocation – community services</li> <li>Coordinating</li> <li>Advocating</li> </ul>	<p>Contractor</p> <p>Community Development Officer</p> <p>Management</p> <p>Department of Transport &amp; regional Services</p>	<p>2009</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan completed</li> <li>Groups working from new facility</li> <li>Funding options established</li> <li>Funding sought</li> </ul>	<p>Funding options being explored 2006</p>

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council/ Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
3.3 Develop a regional community facility where people of all age groups can undertake a range of activities. (Continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct appropriate community consultation</li> <li>• Support a management group for the facility.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinating</li> <li>• Partnership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer</li> </ul>	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation completed</li> <li>• Management Committee established</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employ a community centre Coordinator – half time.</li> <li>• Continue support to the development of a multi-function community centre and annually review its relevance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council</li> </ul>	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinator employed</li> <li>• Relevance annually reviewed and reported to Council</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a business plan to set out time line project direction for site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinating</li> </ul>	Management Committee	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business plan completed</li> </ul>	
3.4 Support and coordinate various public services and facilities and to develop its community resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimise regional partnerships in the maximisation of health, education and other community services.</li> <li>• Ensure budget allocation is appropriate to maintain level of service.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocating</li> </ul>	Office of Regional Affairs	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnerships established and services increased</li> </ul>	

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
3.7 Monitor service delivery effectiveness and measure improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct annual reviews</li> <li>• Liaise with program coordinators regularly to review program statistics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer</li> </ul>	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual review conducted</li> <li>• Programs reviewed</li> </ul>	
3.8 Improve and maintain infrastructure to ensure long-term viable use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Join the national body for community centres, CAHN community and neighbourhood houses and centre association.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer CAHN</li> </ul>	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belong to CAHN</li> </ul>	
3.9 Inform the community of the range of services provided and initiatives undertaken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that information about community services is included in Council's Community Information Directory.</li> <li>• Review the Community Services Directory to incorporate specific information about Council's community services</li> <li>• Continue subscription to the Community Information Strategies Australia (CISA),</li> <li>• Community Development Officer and Coordinator to have training and access to the CISA database at Kapunda Council Office.</li> <li>• Make the CISA information available via the Council web page.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community services continually updated in the Info directory</li> <li>• Information directory annually reviewed</li> <li>• Subscription continued</li> <li>• Training undertaken</li> <li>• CISA available for community access via the Council web-page</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertaken annually</li> </ul>

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#### 4. COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Community education is life-long learning within a community. It has traditionally been seen as the 4<sup>th</sup> sector of education, with vocational education and training (VET) higher education and schools being the other 3.

Community education actively involves community in decisions about learning in ways and at times and places to suit learners. It caters for those who may have had difficulty in the past with participating in education. It includes courses related to leisure, self-improvement, general education, personal and community development, employment skills and preparation for vocational education and training.

**Objective 4:** Promote learning amongst the Light community.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
4.1 Actively support an increase in the provision of vocational training and enterprise education programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for adult education courses</li> <li>Work with training and education providers to establish strategic direction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> <li>TAFE</li> <li>Adult Community Education</li> <li>WEA</li> </ul>	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adult education on education providers agenda for Kapunda</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Plan to implement active learning initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employment Service providers</li> </ul>	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan developed</li> <li>Services established</li> </ul>	

## 5. OLDER PEOPLE

There is no common agreement around the use of the term “older people” For example the Local Government Association identifies the target group older people to mean any community members aged over 55 years. This is in acknowledgement that the transition from work to retirement is an important life stage and that the needs associated with ageing are distinct and requires specific examination. A focus on older people tends to prioritise the needs of those aged over 65 years because of the nexus that exists between advancing age and increasing needs. The Commonwealth Department of health and Aged Care target those aged over 70 years. All agencies recognise in relation to older Aboriginal people it is more appropriate to look at ageing issues from the age of 45 years and older.

Older people are a significant and growing part of the Light Region and this trend presents both daunting challenges and real opportunities for the Council. The population of the region is influenced by two factors. Firstly, the population is ageing as a result of increasing life expectancy. Secondly, the population is ageing as a result of the “population bubble” associated with the “baby boomer” generation.

While population ageing is often considered to have a negative impact due to the need for increased expenditure on health and welfare, an ageing population is a social indicator that may be interpreted positively. Older people in the region play an essential role in the support and operation of community and volunteer groups. The development of services in response to the needs of older residents is also a significant economic growth opportunity for the region. Many older people are self funded retirees who generate increasingly important economic activity. Even those residents of an age requiring home based or residential care contribute to the local economy.

Crucial, however, is not the fact that the population is ageing, but the extent to which the community can support the appropriate supports for older people so as to foster independence and enhance quality of life. Demographic changes such as ageing support an impetus for Council to plan communities that are sustainable and are supportive of an ageing population.

The biggest challenge will be the provision of affordable and appropriate housing options and support which has an impact on the independence and well-being of older people. Housing design, affordability and support can affect physical safety, sense of security and the ability to remain independent. Whilst most people do stay in their own home, many decide to move into smaller or more manageable accommodation. The availability of appropriate choices then becomes an important issue.

**Objective 5:** Advocate for housing and accommodation options that are affordable and suitable to the needs of older people within the light region.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
5.1 Raise awareness of the needs of the area in aged housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess the need for further development of retirement and aged care facilities in the region.</li> <li>Identify and develop aged specific housing options, including a process for identifying land suitable for older persons housing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management</li> <li>Aged care providers</li> </ul>	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs assessed for aged care facilities</li> <li>Aged housing options and available land identified</li> </ul>	
5.2 Identify the projected demand for aged residential care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake specific consultation with the ageing through a residential review to identify housing needs and priorities and ensure these are taken into account in future planning.</li> <li>Lobby relevant government agencies for support in implementing the findings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management</li> </ul> <p>Office for the Ageing</p> <p>Department of Human Service</p>	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation undertaken and reported to Council</li> <li>Government agencies identified and support granted</li> </ul>	

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
5.4 Maintain an active role and continue to build relationships with State and Commonwealth officers in aged care and housing portfolio and offer leadership in these areas to the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be conversant with relevant Acts and knowledgeable on aged care service provision by surveying aged care policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management</li> </ul>	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies surveyed and relevant Acts understood</li> </ul>	

Older people often have the opportunity for more recreation and leisure time. How they use their time can affect their physical and mental health. It is often difficult for older people to gain access to structured and unstructured opportunities for recreation

Education is vital for older people to remain active in the community. It supports opportunities for older people to gain knowledge and make informed decisions, learn new skills, interact socially. Intellectual stimulation can promote well-being and self-sufficiency.

**Objective 6:** Encourage the participation of older people in educational, recreational and cultural pursuits.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
6.1 Develop a range of continuing educational opportunities designed specially for older people and avenues to access structured and unstructured sporting and recreational opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce the University of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Age (U3A) to set up practice in the proposed community centre.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U3A</li> </ul>	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U3A up and running with participants</li> </ul>	Consultation with U3A undertaken 2006
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop, adopt and implement Council policy on aged care that reflects South Australia's government policy <i>Moving Ahead</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SA Department of Health</li> </ul>	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy adopted on recreational opportunities for the aged</li> </ul>	

The aim is to ensure that older people have the relevant information, skills, support structures and opportunities to help them maintain their independence and that they are able to increase or maintain their participation in all aspects of community life.

**Objective 7:** Improve access to services, information and support structures.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
7.1 Broker or develop services in adaptable housing, transport, information, community services, therapy services & social support, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a study to determine aged care needs and potential partners</li> <li>Report to Council study findings and Implement recommendations from the study</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>coordinating</li> </ul>	HACC Office for the Ageing	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study completed</li> <li>Study findings reported to Council</li> <li>Study recommendations implemented</li> <li>HACC programs annually reviewed</li> </ul>	

Health promotion is vital for promoting positive ageing, enabling older people to maintain control of their own health and well-being and maintaining or improving the quality of their life and independence

**Objective 8:** Increase community support in the promotion of health and well-being for older people.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
8.1 In partnership with other agencies specialising in information management, review and develop an appropriate and effective information service for older people and carers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an information network for seniors</li> <li>Promote seniors week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> </ul>	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information network developed</li> <li>Celebration of seniors week well attended</li> </ul>	

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
8.3 Facilitate and promote the development of a health promotion framework for older people for implementation across the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formulate aged care policies that support long-term care options to cater for the ageing population.</li> <li>• Ensure Council policies; programs and services are sensitive to the diverse needs of older people.</li> <li>• Support a report to Council on aged care policy recommendations</li> <li>• Review aged care policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing</li> </ul>	Pursue funding opportunities within Commonwealth and State Government programs that are focused on healthy ageing.  Healthy SA Department for Families and Communities Office of Regional Affairs Department of Recreation and Sport	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies for older people drafted</li> <li>• Policies made in keeping with aged care need</li> <li>• Policy recommendations completed and presented to Council</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a range of health promotion programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centre Coordinator</li> </ul>	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health promotion programs for older people established and well attended</li> </ul>	

## 6. YOUNG PEOPLE

The term 'young people' is generally used to describe members of the community aged from 12 to 24 years. Within this age range a particular focus is generally provided to young people between the ages of 15-18 years in recognition of the importance of this transitional period between childhood and adulthood.

Young people are not a homogenous group and indeed the experience of young people in the region varies greatly according to their family structures, where they live, their incomes, cultural background, disability status, sexuality and gender.

Young adults are a significant proportion of the population and make a major contribution to the life in the region. It is therefore essential that Light Regional Council understands and reflects their needs and interests. We must:

- Encourage young people to actively participate in the social, cultural and economic aspects of the region.
- Consult with young people on issues that impact their lives.
- Collaborate and coordinate with service providers, other levels of government, funding bodies and community groups to achieve best possible outcomes for youth.

Services for young people in the region are currently situated in other towns bordering the light region, namely Gawler and Nuriootpa. Limited services are available in the main town of Kapunda, Employment Directions, drug and alcohol counselling and general counselling offered at the Kapunda High School are the limited few.

Youth within regional areas are disadvantaged compared to their metropolitan neighbours as far as transport, access to activities and employment opportunities are concerned and this plan seeks to support actions in relation to priority needs, which have been identified.

A youth employment strategy for the region is needed to attempt to stem the loss of young people from the area and ensure that young people benefit from local jobs growth.

The social impact of the 'post teenage trough' goes hand in hand with the economic development issues it creates. Many young people find it hard to feel ownership of or connection with their community because 'they are only going to have to leave soon anyway'. This sense of dislocation from the community and uncertainty about their future intensifies as they reach school-leaving age. As well as affecting the motivation of young people in job hunting or studying it can manifest in anti-social behaviour and drug/alcohol misuse.

Greater recognition and celebration of the value and contribution of young people needs to be enhanced within the region.

Council should review the way in which it communicates with its younger residents and whether information it produces is targeted appropriately at a youth audience. The establishment of an interactive youth webpage as part of Council's overall website is a good way to both promote the work of Council in relation to young people, communicate

the important contribution young people make to the community as well as supporting a forum for youth views on community issues.

The continuation of the Youth Advisory Committee is important to enable young people in the region to participate in civic processes, support formal input to Council on relevant issues and ensure the voice of young people is heard more effectively.

One of the most frequent contributions from informants during consultations on the needs of young people has been in relation to the lack of voice young people are perceived to have in the region. It was reported that young people felt no one neither listened to their needs nor really cared about what they wanted. It was felt that public attention about young people invariably focused on 'youth problems' such as crime and anti-social behaviour.

Giving young people a voice and reinforcing that their contribution is valuable is one way to increase their sense of ownership and loyalty to the community. As well as challenging negative community perceptions about young people, there is a need to ensure that all planning within the community is responsive to the needs and desires of young people. It was uniformly felt that Council is the most appropriate body to take lead role on this issue because of its involvement in youth issues generally and because of its role as a planner within the community.

The establishment of Youth Advisory Committees (YACS) has proved an effective mechanism for local governments throughout South Australia to enable young people to have a say about community issues. A review of existing YAC initiatives in rural areas indicate that the features of a successful YAC are:

1. The establishment of a non-token structure that is serious about gaining young people's input. Young people therefore need to be consulted about the YACs formation and operation.
2. Effective accountability and reporting links between Council and its YAC.
3. Adequate resourcing by a Council including the allocation of a Council Officer to support the YAC.
4. A structure which ensures good geographical representation of young people as well as participation from young people from all walks of life.

A Youth Services Network is needed to both provide a focus for structural advocacy on youth issues and to enable a coordinated approach to sector development.

A Youth Services Network is one way to improve interagency networking and coordination on youth issues and give some coherency to address areas of unmet need. To enable it to be as functional as possible the Youth Services Network could:

1. Meet on a monthly or bimonthly basis so as not to add to the 'meetings burden' of small services.
2. Involve all organisations and individuals involved with youth issues across not only the region but from surrounding regions including schools, police, family

services and sporting clubs. Meetings could be held in different locations to encourage broad participation.

3. Have links with the YAC to ensure the direct representation of young people.
4. Have specific focussed working parties that act on particular issues such as housing, employment or recreational issues.

Whilst coordination of existing services and responses is an important area of need, there remains a lack of youth workers able to focus on service system and structural advocacy issues because of the overwhelming demands of direct service delivery. As a consequence lobbying for additional resources is ad hoc and uncoordinated, funding opportunities may not be pursued and joint work on community development issues is rarely possible.

Areas indicate that the creation of Youth Development Officers within Council is an effective way to address these issues whilst also resourcing Council's own work in relation to young people.

Youth clubs and church youth groups within the towns can play an important role in giving young people 'something to do', however there is a need to ensure these are more adequately resourced and coordinated to ensure their long-term sustainability. A Youth Development Officer within Council would certainly support much-needed enhancement and expansion of youth clubs.

A continuing issue within the region is the lack of a dedicated youth facility available for a variety of youth activities. Such a venue would enable the support of community based arts and cultural groups, bands nights and as a focal point from which events and programs could reach out across the entire region. A centrally located venue would also support a safe youth friendly space for young people to meet and gather. This venue could also act as a venue for training, workshops and other youth development programs.

**Objective 9:** Advocate for youth employment opportunities within the region

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
9.1 Development of a youth employment strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with relevant stakeholders and develop a partnership approach</li> <hr/> <li>• Seek external funding to resource the development &amp; implementation of a youth employment strategy</li> <li>• Investigate existing successful employment and vocational programs to model and build on</li> <li>• Encourage relationships/programs with local business, which lead to work experience and potential placement for local young people.</li> <li>• Establish a database of participating businesses and interested young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination</li> <hr/> <li>• Advocacy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer / Youth Development Officer</li> <hr/> <li>Establish stakeholders: Employment directions / Office for Youth TAFE SA Works Barossa and Light Regional Development Board Service Clubs</li> </ul>	<p>2009</p> <hr/> <p>2009</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth employment strategy developed</li> <hr/> <li>• Trainee support funding obtained</li>   <li>• Employment strategies established</li>   <li>• Relationships with businesses established</li>   <li>• Database completed</li> </ul>	

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
9.2 Continue Youth Advisory Committee to enable the voice of young people to be heard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation with young people on the direction of YAC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer / Youth Development Officer</li> </ul>	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young people involved</li> </ul>	YAC established 2005
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of budget submission to resource YAC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> </ul> Budget allocation – Community Services	Office for Youth	annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget submission developed</li> <li>Budget allocation to YAC</li> </ul>	Ongoing annually
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop operational framework for YAC</li> <li>Establish formal links with Council structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> </ul> Budget allocation – Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer / Youth Development Officer</li> </ul>	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YAC framework developed</li> <li>Accountability links endorsed by Council</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit and train YAC membership</li> <li>Support ongoing resourcing and support to YAC</li> <li>Review the model of operation of the YAC on an annual basis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resourcing</li> </ul> New budget allocation – Youth Development Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer / Youth Development Officer</li> </ul>	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YAC membership established</li> <li>YAC fully operational</li> <li>YAC reviewed annually</li> </ul>	

**Objective 10:** Enhance coordination and development of the youth sector

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
10.1 Establish an interagency Youth Services Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further consultation on Youth Services Network proposal</li> <li>Development of Youth Services Network model</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> Budget allocation – Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Development Officer</li> <li>Barossa Employment Directions</li> <li>TAFE SA</li> <li>Country Arts SA</li> <li>Barossa and Light Development Board</li> <li>Drug &amp; Alcohol Services</li> <li>Centacare</li> <li>CAMHS</li> <li>Leisure options</li> <li>Child Youth Family Services</li> </ul>	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Broad endorsement for Youth Services Network</li> <li>Youth Services Network developed &amp; meeting commence</li> </ul>	Youth Barossa established
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify resource needs of Youth Services Network appropriate Council support</li> <li>Preparation of budget submission to resource Youth Services Network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resourcing</li> </ul> Budget allocation – CDO / YDO	As above	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget submission developed</li> <li>Budget allocation to Youth Services Network</li> </ul>	achieved
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and convene Youth Services Network</li> <li>Support ongoing participation and support to Youth Services Network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> Budget allocation – CDO / YDO	As above	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth services Network meetings commenced</li> <li>Youth Services Network operating effectively with broad participation</li> </ul>	

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
10.2 Create a Youth Development Officer (YDO) position within Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate a need for a Youth Development Officer</li> <li>• Preparation of budget submission for YDO</li> <li>• Identification of alternative or complimentary funding sources</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a YDO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaboration</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – CDO</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resourcing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In partnership with Council and other stakeholders, i.e. other Councils</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Government Youth Services Network YAC</p>	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highlight in Social Plan</li> <li>• Budget Submission develop</li> <li>• Funding opportunities identified</li> <li>• Relevant submissions developed</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget allocation to YDO</li> <li>• Position established</li> </ul>	

**Objective 11:** To promote services, facilities and programs for youth.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
11.1 Develop educational, recreational and social programs for young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programs to involve all target groups</li> <li>• Lobby for the provision of health services for youth particularly in the area of mental health and drug and alcohol services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocating</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i></p>	Schools Education providers Service Clubs	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All target groups considered</li> <li>• Youth health services operating in Kapunda</li> </ul>	<b>Outcomes /</b>

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Progress to date
11.1 Develop educational, recreational and social programs for young people (continued)	Programs to consider are: linking younger people with the senior community, Youth Arts, mentoring, youth sponsorship and youth SHED				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth programs running and well attended.</li> </ul>	
11.2 Develop and support community projects that support opportunities for young people of the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with other organisations to develop a youth leadership forum</li> <li>Continual support to joint Youth Week Program with youth representation on planning committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate</li> </ul> Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i>	Youth Services Network Office for Youth Kapunda High School	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leadership forum undertaken</li> <li>Youth Week celebrated annually</li> </ul>	
11.3 Development of a graffiti prevention program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation with youth to identify key areas for attention in regard to crime prevention.</li> <li>Collaborate with SA Police to run Blue Light events. This will assist in youth/police relations and also create a further range of activities in which young people can participate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate</li> </ul> Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i>	Council SA Police YAC	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crime prevention ideas obtained from local youth</li> <li>Blue Light events undertaken</li> </ul>	

**Objective 12:** Respond to other needs of young people

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
12. 1 Development of youth policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a youth policy that acknowledge the needs and assets of young people and defines the role of Council.</li> <li>• Liaise with Youth Network and YAC in the formulation of Council Youth Policy</li> <li>• Conduct a youth audit of draft policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer / Youth Development Officer</li> </ul> <p>Youth Services Network YAC</p>	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy adopted by Council.</li> </ul>	Policies currently under development 2006
12.2 Support the establishment of a youth space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate ways to best establish youth space, develop a youth space model</li> <li>• Secure premises for youth space decorate and equip</li> <li>• Youth development Officer to lead a youth space committee</li> <li>• Advocate for services to be run from youth space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i></li> <li>External funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer / Youth Development Officer</li> </ul> <p>Youth space committee</p>	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth space model adopted</li> <li>• Funding opportunities explored</li> <li>• Funding obtained</li> <li>• Youth space up and running</li> <li>• Youth services run from youth space</li> </ul>	

## 7. TRANSPORT

Transport is a major issue in the light region for all sectors, including Social Planning. Poor transport infrastructure effects industry and economic development as much as it does people within the community who struggle to have their basic needs met. Work on transport issues must be coordinated with other stakeholders such as industry, the business community, neighbouring Councils and the State and Commonwealth Government.

Reliable transport options are of great importance in maintaining mobility and independence. Access to transport across the region is critical in carrying out the tasks of daily living, in maintaining wider social interaction, and in being able to contribute and participate in the community. The need to improve access to transport within the light region will increase as the population increases and ages.

Young people were commonly identified as a group least likely to be able to have access to independent transport. Particularly for unemployed young people or students the cost of purchasing and maintaining a vehicle often makes owning their own car impossible. Lack of access to transport is seen as important barrier to young people access employment, training or post-secondary education. It also prevents young people from engaging in recreational activities and feeling part of the community.

The lack of specialist medical services locally also requires long and therefore expensive trips for many older people and people with a disability. The cost of community transport means that transport for non-essential activities, which nonetheless enable fuller participation in community life, is not possible for many older people and people with a disability on low incomes. The local community transport service relies totally on volunteer drivers and they are struggling to ensure there are sufficient volunteers available. As demand on service increases along with the workload of office staff there is less time available to recruit and train new drivers.

**Objective 13:** Develop a coordinated approach to transport issues which integrates social and community issues

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
13.1 To enable access to inter and intra-regional transport which in turn affects people's employment, social and recreational options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council to continue to fund the Community Passenger Transport Network in partnership with other Council's in the region, to ensure a community transport service is provided.</li> <li>Review the service annually and report to Council.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> <li>Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i></li> <li>External Funding</li> </ul>	Barossa Community transport HACC Other transport stakeholders	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuation of service</li> <li>Review conducted and reported to Council</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of volunteer drivers by undertaking a recruitment campaign.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> <li>Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i></li> </ul>		2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in numbers of volunteer drivers</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a campaign targeting all sectors of the community to promote the transport services and access links that service the region, Local newspapers, with rate notices, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> <li>Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i></li> </ul>		2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased knowledge of transport available</li> </ul>	

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Time frame	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
<p>13.1 To enable access to inter and intra-regional transport which in turn affects people's employment, social and recreational options. <b>(continued)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a regional transport forum in conjunction with Barossa Community Transport Committee</li> <li>Later development of solutions to include investigate possibilities of further provision through dial-a-ride</li> <li>Liaise with other councils to implement and review all regional transport options</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i></p> <p>External Funding</p>	Community Transport Network	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transport forum conducted</li> <li>Documented range of issues and propose strategies</li> <li>Transport options implemented</li> <li>Implementation and review of regional transport strategies</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council to lobby the Minister for Transport for improved passenger bus services.</li> <li>Council to utilise existing community transport and school buses to support access for young people in outlying towns to facilities especially during school holidays and on Friday and Saturday nights.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocating</li> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – <i>Community Services</i></p> <p>External Funding</p>	All transport providers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written submission completed</li> <li>Increased funding</li> <li>Increased access to transport by young people in the region</li> </ul>	

## 8. DISABILITY

“People with a disability” is a term that includes many people in the community who live with a wide variety of different disability types. The SA Disability Services Act 1993 defines a person who has a disability, however arising, to include a disability:

- a. That is attributable to an intellectual, psychiatric, sensory, physical or like impairment or to a combination of such impairments, and
- b. That is permanent or likely to be permanent, and
- c. That results in:
  - i. A significantly reduced capacity in one or more life activities, such as communication, learning, mobility, decision-making or self-care, and
  - ii. The need for support, whether or not on an ongoing basis.

People with a disability include those who may have low to moderate needs as well as those with profound, complex or multiple disabilities. People with a disability may be children, young people and older people. A person may have had a disability since birth or have adjusted to a disability later in life. Disability types may include long term, chronic illnesses such as HIV/AIDS. People with a disability also have different needs and issues associated with their cultural backgrounds, gender, socio-economic resources, sexuality and race. The needs and issues affecting the carers of people with a disability also require specific consideration.

### Legislation and Discrimination

The Commonwealth *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* supports protection for everyone in Australia against discrimination based on disability, including HIV/AIDS status. Disability discrimination occurs when people with a disability are treated less fairly than people without a disability. Disability discrimination also occurs when people are treated less fairly because they are relatives, friends, carers, co-workers or associates of a person with a disability.

Under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* it is against the law to discriminate against someone if they have a disability. The act makes discrimination unlawful in all aspects of life including:

- *Employment.* For example, when someone is trying to get a job, equal pay or promotion.
- *Education.* For example, when enrolling in a school, TAFE, university or other colleges.

- *Access to premises* used by the public. For example, using libraries, places of worship, government and local government offices, hospitals, restaurants, shops, or other premises used by public.
- *Provision of goods, services and facilities*. For example, when a person wants goods or services from shops, pubs and places of entertainment, cafes, video shops, banks, lawyers, government departments, doctors, hospitals and so on.
- *Accommodation*. For example, when renting or trying to rent a room in a boarding house, a flat, unit or house.
- *Buying land*. For example, buying a house, place for a group of people, or drop-in centre.
- *Activities of clubs and associations*. For example, wanting to enter or join a registered club, or when a person is already a member.
- *Sport*. For example, when wanting to play, or playing a sport.
- *Administration of Commonwealth Government Laws and programs*. For example, when seeking information on government entitlements, trying to access government programs, wanting to use voting facilities.

The *Disability Discrimination Act* makes it against the law for providers of goods, services and facilities to discriminate against a person because of his or her disability. This means that a person with a disability cannot be provided with goods, services and facilities on less favourable terms and conditions. It also means that a person with a disability has a right to enter the premises of providers of goods, services and facilities if people without a disability can do so. The Act also makes it against the law for public places to be inaccessible to people with a disability e.g. footpaths, parks, public toilets, libraries, public transport and restaurants.

**Objective 14:** Enhance the capacity of people with a disability to participate fully in community life.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
14.1 The development and implementation of a coordinated access and equity policy within Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update and review Council's Equal Employment Opportunity &amp; Access policies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> <li>Budget allocation – Human Resources</li> </ul>	Planning Department	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing policy reviewed &amp; updated</li> <li>New policy areas drafted</li> </ul>	
14.1 The development and implementation of a coordinated access and equity policy within Council. (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop policies to ensure non-discriminatory access to Council services/facilities.</li> <li>Develop an Access &amp; Equity Action Plan to implement policy goals</li> <li>Incorporate priority strategies on an annual basis in Council's Management Plan.</li> <li>Report on Access and Equity Activities in Council's Annual report.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> <li>Budget allocation Human Resources</li> <li>Coordinating</li> <li>Budget allocation – Human resources</li> </ul>		2010  2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access &amp; Equity policy finalised</li> <li>Access &amp; Equity Action Plan drafted</li> <li>Action Plan reviewed annually</li> <li>Access &amp; Equity strategies incorporated into Management Plan.</li> <li>Progress on Access &amp; Equity activities incorporated into Annual Report.</li> </ul>	
14.2 Address access issues within Council and the broader community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Barriers register &amp; Hazard Reduction Program</li> <li>Implement a Council's Hazard Reduction Program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> <li>Budget allocation - Works</li> </ul>	Planning and Works Department	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notice of barriers register distributed</li> <li>Level of hazard reporting increased</li> <li>Number of trip hazards responded to</li> </ul>	

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
14.3 Improve accessibility of community transport & other forms of transport.	See strategy 12.1			2010		
14.4 Research the needs of carers (of both older people & people with a disability).	Work with HACC & disability groups to develop survey on the needs of carers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use rate notices as means to distribute survey.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> </ul> Budget allocation – community services	HACC & disability groups	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey developed</li> <li>Survey distributed</li> <li>Survey feedback used to inform update of Social Plan</li> </ul>	
14.5 Liaise with service providers round gaps in practical support services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek involvement of HACC &amp; disability groups</li> <li>Establish working group to explore issues further</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination</li> </ul> Budget allocation – Community services	HACC & disability groups	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion at HACC forum</li> <li>Working group established</li> </ul>	
14.6 Expand range of practical services offered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby SA government for expansion of neighbour aid &amp; home maintenance funding</li> <li>Work with service providers to expand range of practical support available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocating / Coordination</li> </ul> Budget allocation – Community Services	Meals on Wheels Home support program District Nursing	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written submission completed</li> <li>Gardening &amp; neighbour aid services expanded</li> </ul>	

## 9. CULTURAL SERVICES

There is a strong tradition of community support and involvement in the arts throughout the region. The long standing and evolving network of cultural groups extends across, music, visual arts, literature, museums and festivals. In addition to the community based activity, anecdotal evidence suggests that the physical environment of Kapunda has attracted many creative people to the region with a diversity of professional arts expertise, including artists of national and international renown.

Notwithstanding the array of existing arts and cultural organisations, the sector is facing a range of issues such as the changing nature of volunteerism and declining memberships for some groups. Organisations also report increasing costs, particularly with regards to insurance premiums; and increasing administrative workload for volunteers. Other challenges exist regarding effective networking and marketing; managing financial risk; corporate governance, audience development and attracting public and corporate funding.

It is recognised that the work of community cultural organisations significantly contributes to community life through specific services such as managing venues, preserving collections of social and cultural heritage, staging events, supporting workshops and classes to develop skills. The work of community cultural organisations also helps to build and sustain social capital within communities. These activities have the potential to help overcome social isolation, enhance the built environment and extend tourism visitation. For this reason issues relating to the arts and cultural development in the region are incorporated into this Social Plan. It is also for these reasons that all tiers of government, including local government, support for cultural development.

**Objective 15:** Promote, facilitate and develop cultural opportunities and events within the region.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
15.1 Support the provision of cultural activities that enriches local culture and develops a sense of identity and pride within the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote local cultural events using Council information services to inform the community and encourage local involvement.</li> <li>Assist with risk assessments and insurance needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> <li>Budget allocation – Community services</li> <li>External funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> <li>Risk management Officer</li> </ul>	ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased community knowledge of cultural events</li> <li>Community groups compliant with insurance and risk</li> </ul>	

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
15.1 Support the provision of cultural activities that enriches local culture and develops a sense of identity and pride within the region. (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognise the economic and social contribution that arts and culture make to the community.</li> <li>Collaborate with and encourage local participation in collation, update and promotion of regional cultural services and events.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review relevance of financial assistance given towards community events.</li> <li>Support the annual Kapunda Christmas Street Party, Carols by Candle Light Evenings, Tour Down Under celebrations at Greenock &amp; other events</li> </ul> Continue to stage Australia Day Celebrations & Citizenship ceremonies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Events Coordinator</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> </ul>	ongoing	guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of the arts</li> <li>Increased community participation</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevance reviewed for events</li> <li>Continuation of support for events</li> <li>Australia Day and Citizenship ceremonies held</li> </ul>	
15.2 Development of a policy framework to inform Council support of local arts and cultural activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of cultural profile</li> <li>Development of cultural policy framework &amp; strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Budget allocation – community events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Events Coordinator &amp; Community Development Officer</li> </ul>	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information Directory to include cultural profile</li> <li>Cultural policy framework established</li> </ul>	

## 10. SPORT AND RECREATION

One of the most pervasive views of young people is that there is “nothing to do” in the area, particularly outside the summer months. Lack of money and transport seriously restricts the range of recreational activities available to young people in the region. Sporting activities are one important form of recreational activity that includes both health and social benefits. Many of the organised sporting activities in the region encourage young men’s participation and more could be done to promote physical activity for young women as well.

More could be done to encourage people in general to participate in some form of activity, whether it be cycling, walking, playing sport and yoga, etc. Council should look at ways to support and expand recreation options of the broader community.

**Objective 16:** Provide an environment where leisure, sport and social activities and services meet the diverse needs of people of all ages.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
16.1 Develop and implement an Active Community Program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit of all recreation and cultural facilities, who can access them, who can't, why and how much do they cost to use.</li> <li>Maintain, enhance and publicise community leisure and recreational assets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Budget allocation – Community services</li> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer Department of recreation and Sport</li> </ul>	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit completed</li> <li>Increased participation in exercise by the community</li> </ul>	

## 11. CRIME PREVENTION

### **What is community safety?**

It's more than just crime prevention and emergency management, it's about:-

- Sharing responsibility for each other.
- Promoting community wellbeing.
- Enjoying local surroundings, being proud of them and creating partnerships across the community to maintain them.

### **What is crime prevention?**

Successful crime prevention is based on partnerships – which mean everyone plays a role.

Research shows that well maintained areas are less likely to experience crime like graffiti and/or vandalism.

Another example is what criminologists have termed 'natural surveillance'. Research suggests that if people make positive use of areas, their presence is sufficient to deter potential criminals.

Being out and about enjoying the parks serves a double purpose, firstly it is a healthy activity, and secondly, our presence as a community in our open spaces will deter illegitimate/illegal users.

Community safety and crime prevention is everybody's responsibility. This may include:

- Introduction of Closed Circuit Televisions / Cameras
- Residents trimming trees to expose a dark area to streetlights.
- Council produce information brochures



Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
17.2 Identify and implement programs that foster community involvement and raise awareness in crime prevention. (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify community leaders/groups who could work collaboratively on crime prevention programs.</li> <li>Advocate for police cadets to be involved with youth services.</li> <li>Take young people to visit Police Headquarters and Mounted Police as part of a strengthening process between young people and police</li> </ul>	Budget allocation – Community services	SA Police Youth Organisations	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification of leaders and groups</li> <li>Police involvement</li> </ul> <p>Visit to Police Headquarters undertaken</p>	
17.3 Reduce illegal graffiti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research and assess impact of vandalism and graffiti on Council's operations.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Form a graffiti busters group in response to community complaint</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget allocation – Community services</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> <li>Risk Management Officer</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> </ul>	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact of vandalism and graffiti researched and reported to Council</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graffiti busters group formed</li> </ul>	

## 12. VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering develops links between Council and the community by encouraging community participation, supporting services responsive to community needs and giving access to resources and information.

Areas of opportunity for volunteering within the region include tourism, library services, community services and education, graffiti removal, youth, environmental groups and recreation.

**Objective 18:** Increase awareness of and mobilise support for volunteer programs.

Volunteers are defined as people undertaking activities of their own free will, without payment, which are of benefit to the community.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
18.1 Develop a Volunteer support strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Volunteer Support Strategy in association with Volunteer SA and other relevant agencies that promote and support the initiatives and achievements of volunteers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> <li>Budget allocation – Community services</li> <li>External funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> <li>Manager Library Services</li> <li>Community Centre Coordinator</li> <li>Volunteer SA</li> </ul>	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support strategy implemented</li> </ul>	
18.2 Develop a volunteer policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the current volunteer groups</li> <li>Identify needs and initiate closer links with volunteers and groups</li> <li>Review existing Volunteer Policy and report to Council recommendations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> <li>Budget allocation – Community services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> <li>Manager Library Services</li> <li>Community Centre Coordinator</li> </ul>	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer groups identified</li> <li>Volunteer needs identified</li> <li>Volunteer policy recommendations reported to Council</li> </ul>	

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
18.3 Recognise the contribution and commitment of volunteer community groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a Light Regional Volunteer Day as a day of recognition where volunteering is recognised and celebrated.</li> <li>Actively support those who assist the community.</li> <li>Promote information sharing and community building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting Budget allocation – Community services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> <li>Manager Library Services</li> <li>Community Centre Coordinator</li> </ul>	Ongoing annual basis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer celebration annually</li> <li>Supported volunteers</li> </ul> <p>Community building &amp; info sharing promoted</p>	Annual volunteer Christmas/thank you Party

### 13. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community development processes address the needs and issues of the local community by involving local people in a process of empowerment. Community development is an important process in developing a healthy community. A healthy community promotes organisations that are prepared to support informal networks and local community initiatives that arise from community interaction. It seeks to develop intervention strategies aimed at including those who are excluded from the processes of community development. It seeks to develop personal, social, cultural, economic and political well being of individuals within the community.

Community development is a process that attempts to address the needs and issues of the community to bring about positive change. It is concerned with involving local people in a process of empowerment so that people have more control over their lives and in the decisions that affect their lives.

Community development and social planning develops and implements Council's social policies. It supports social justice and access and equity programs provided by Council and in the community.

**Objective 19:** Ensure the development of services in accordance with local needs and to promote community participation in the planning, management and delivery of services to the community.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
18.1 Maintain a community development focus for the Light region that includes community participation and consultation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a community development group made up of service representatives and community members.</li> <li>Establish purpose of committee.</li> <li>Develop plan for the committee's work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinating</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> </ul> <p>Other service groups to be established</p>	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group up and running</li> <li>Purpose established</li> <li>Plan developed</li> </ul>	Quarterly meeting held between – Wakefield, Light, Clare & Gilbert Valleys, Barossa and Mallala Councils
18.2 Develop a main street traders committee to develop a plan to improve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate business operators on the benefits of a group</li> <li>Recognise businesses that support quality customer service and develop an award.</li> <li>Special emphasis should be placed in educating existing businesses of the impact of tourism events have on the viability of the main street and the overall image of Kapunda.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocating</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community services</p> <p>External Funding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> </ul> <p>All businesses within the region in particular those in Kapunda's Main Street LT &amp; Associates Barossa and Light Regional Development Board</p>	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Benefits established</li> <li>Best business awarded annually</li> <li>Businesses supportive and proactive within the group</li> </ul>	Customer service and selling skills training

## 14. PEOPLE FROM CULTURALLY & LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS

People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds is a term which includes those whose first language is one other than English, or whose family background involves migration from non-English speaking country. It can refer to new arrivals to Australia as immigrants or refugees from non-English speaking countries as well as the children of migrant's parents. In addition, people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds may also have a primary language other than English.

Councils' role in promoting community celebrations and in overseeing citizenship ceremonies in Kapunda support opportunities to celebrate and promote multiculturalism in the region.

**Objective 20:** Celebrate and promote cultural diversity in the region.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
20.1 Promote tolerance & the celebration of cultural diversity in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the cultural diversity of residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> </ul> Budget allocation – Community services	All Council	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of public statements made by Council promoting tolerance and celebration of cultural diversity</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Celebrate appropriate multicultural events</li> <li>Use citizenship ceremonies to promote cultural diversity in the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy</li> </ul> Budget allocation – Community services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> <li>Mayor</li> </ul>	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporation of multiculturalism in public celebrations</li> </ul>	Citizenship ceremonies Celtic Festival

## 15. FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Children and their families are an integral part of communities in the region. Responding to needs of families is one of the best ways as a society we can build the types of communities we desire. Families come in all shapes and sizes in the region from the traditional two parent household, to sole parent families, blended families, extended family groups, gay and lesbian parented families and families of choice.

There are ranges of life changes experienced by families that have been identified as potential times of crisis. Issues around coping with adolescent children, a relationship breakdown, the end of child rearing or grief and loss issues associated with disability or ageing. Families with pre-school age children were particularly identified as being both at risk and concurrently least likely to receive the assistance and practical support they require. Once families are linked into the school system their support options are more extensive and the chances that problems will be identified are increased.

Research and best practice indicates that families with preschool aged children are most likely to benefit from early intervention so as to prevent or lessen the impact of a family crisis. Childcare services are able to identify many problems experienced by families with pre-school aged children; however they lack the resources and specialist focus needed to support an effective intervention. Many families, however, do not or cannot access childcare, as there are limited childcare options in the region. Existing family support options were consistently identified as being inadequate.

Feedback from child services, disability services, preschools and primary schools consistently refer to inadequate access to specialist services.

Services and community groups working with children and families in need spoke of the need for a central “one-stop-shop” in Kapunda for community information and service. There is no generalist shopfront in the region offering information, referral or general assistance. Community members also struggle to find the assistance they need easily or get lost in the maze of small services.

**Objective 21:** Respond to needs of children and their families

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
21.1 Introduction of support services in the region, including targeting areas of unmet needs within Indigenous communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobby SA Government for expanded family support funding</li> <li>Liaise with relevant organisations to determine appropriate support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy</li> <li>Budget allocation – Community services</li> </ul>	Anglicare Family support Centacare Aboriginal Services	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council letter to Department of Community Services &amp; relevant Minister</li> <li>Additional funding allocated</li> <li>Letter to Dept of Families &amp; Communities etc identifying need for service</li> <li>Meet with relevant Aboriginal organisations to identify funding opportunities</li> <li>Requested assistance provided</li> </ul>	
21.2 Establish a children & families network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification of relevant stakeholders</li> <li>Further consultation with stakeholders on network proposal</li> <li>Meeting of stakeholders to consider network proposal</li> <li>Ongoing participation, liaison and networking on children and family issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination</li> <li>Budget allocation – Community services</li> </ul>	Child Mental Health Service Anglicare Centacare Child, Youth & Family Services Child & Youth Health Department of Families & Communities Smith Family	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholders identified</li> <li>Consultations held</li> <li>Meeting held</li> <li>Network established</li> </ul>	

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
21.3 Development of an integrated region wide children & families service model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with children's services on proposed model</li> <li>• Finalisation of integrated children's services model</li> <li>• Implementation of new model</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community services</p>	<p>Child Mental Health Service            Anglicare            Centacare            Child, Youth &amp; Family Services            Child &amp; Youth Health Department of Families &amp; Communities            Smith Family</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation undertaken</li> <li>• Model finalised</li> <li>• Implementation of children &amp; families service model</li> </ul>	
21.4 Increased access to specialist support services for high needs children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify funding opportunities through the <i>Stronger families</i> initiative</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer</li> </ul> <p>Dept of Families and Children</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination around funding submissions achieved</li> </ul>	

## 16. COMMUNITY GRANTS

**Objective 22:** Assist and encourage community groups to conduct projects that benefit residents in the Light Regional Council and which foster opportunities for community participation and development.

Strategies	Actions	Role of Council / Resources	Responsibility Stakeholders	Timeframe	Performance Indicators	Outcomes / Progress to date
22.1 To assist community groups in all aspects of grants and fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate additional funding for community groups and service providers.</li> <li>Keep informed on grant opportunities by subscribing to ourcommunity.com</li> <li>Pass this information onto the community.</li> <li>Continue Council community grant program</li> <li>To assist community groups with the preparation of funding submissions and/or grant applications</li> <li>Set up a database to correlate all the information on grant funding bodies and attach it to the Council website for communities to access.</li> <li>Facilitate community grant workshops.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Development Officer</li> <li>Barossa Riverland Midnorth Area Consultative Committee</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Annually</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuation of special event grants</li> <li>Up to date with grant information</li> <li>Community informed on grant opportunities</li> <li>Continuation of community grants program</li> <li>Community groups successful in grant submissions</li> <li>Database of grant opportunities established</li> <li>Workshops facilitated</li> </ul>	



## 17. EVALUATION

Human services have consistently had difficulties developing numerical measures for the degree to which objectives are being achieved. There are difficulties in developing performance indicators in human services because one does not have control over what one is trying to achieve. In saying this though evaluation might consider:

- Whether objectives were achieved
- How well they were achieved
- To what extent target groups participated in the community engagement, e.g. in terms of numbers and the range of views expressed
- Which techniques were most effective in clearly conveying information and the adequacy of the information
- The impact community engagement had on decision making
- Adequacy of the timing, funding and other resources
- Cost effectiveness of the engagement.

An important part of planning and design is determining what techniques will be used to evaluate the community engagement program. Various methods can be used to gather material for an evaluation, including:

- Informal discussion
- Interviews
- Questionnaires
- Tear off forms with tick box answers
- Observations to assess the quality of participation, reviews of process documentation including records of events, issues raised, decisions made, submissions, feedback forms

- Process evaluation forms designed to be filled in by key informants in the process
- Self-administered testing at the time of engagement i.e. pre and post tests to measure change in responses, knowledge, values.
- Gain feedback via personal contact with members of target groups or through surveys.

Evaluation of programs is an important part of social planning to:

- Improve the efficiency of the process
- Measure outcomes from processes (performance indicators)
- Compare processes with other organisations processes (benchmarking)
- Improve processes so as to improve the quality of the outcomes from the process

**Objective 23:** Measure and increase sustainability.

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
23.1 Will support guidance in the development and implementation of evaluation tools measurable evaluation standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will solicit the feedback of community and partners and use that feedback in planning service delivery to ensure that programs and initiatives are making significant impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Development Officer</li> <li>• Youth Development Officer</li> <li>• Community Centre Coordinator</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from groups and partners used to improve service delivery</li> </ul>	

<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Role of Council / Resources</b>	<b>Responsibility Stakeholders</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Outcomes / Progress to date</b>
23.1 Will support guidance in the development and implementation of evaluation tools measurable evaluation standards (Continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation results to be reported to participants and the broader community so that people understand how their input has been used.</li> <li>• Tailor effective evaluation strategies to the planned engagement process.</li> <li>• Document the process, particularly issues or problems</li> <li>• Modify and improve evaluation to deliver better outcomes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting</li> </ul> <p>Budget allocation – Community services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation reported back to the community.</li> <li>• Effective evaluation strategies engaged</li> <li>• Process documented</li> <li>• Modified evaluation process as required</li> </ul>	

## 18. FUNDING

Funding opportunities will be identified to maximise the financial strength and long-term sustainability in the development of projects; all avenues will be explored to aid the achievement of successful implementation of the *Plan*.

Partnerships with neighbouring Councils will be pursued, especially in addressing issues relating to Youth and Aged Services. The HACC program and Community Transport currently operates in partnership with Barossa Council, which is a successful arrangement. The following are funding sources available:

<b>Name of Grant</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Grant level</b>	<b>Contact details</b>
1. Regional partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen growth and opportunities</li> <li>• Improve access to services</li> <li>• Support planning</li> </ul>	Up to \$250,000	Department of Transport & Regional Services  1800 026 222
2. Stronger Families & Communities Strategy	Prevention & early intervention measures fro communities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local solutions to local problems</li> <li>• Can Do community</li> </ul>	Depends on analysis of issue & priority	Department of Families and Communities.  1300 653 227
3.Youth Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Week</li> <li>• Youth Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Youth in empowerment</li> <li>• Youth policy</li> </ul>	Varied	Department of Families & Communities – Office for Youth
4. Places for People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create vibrant civic spaces to encourage social interaction and activity</li> </ul>	To be advised  <a href="http://www.planning.sa.gov.au/placesforpeople">www.planning.sa.gov.au/placesforpeople</a>	Planning SA  8303 0569

5. Working Towns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support community economic development</li> </ul>	Up to \$20,000	Office of Employment 8842 3115
6. Grants for Seniors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Varied mainly to promote positive ageing</li> </ul>	Up to \$25,000	Department of Families and Communities – Office for the Ageing
7. Arts grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skill development, shows on the road and regional partnerships</li> </ul>	Up to \$15,000	Country Arts SA 8563 1572
8. Adult Community Education Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To help create work &amp; learning opportunities</li> </ul>	Up to \$20,000	Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology.

## 5. CONCLUSION

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Local Government is well placed within the social model of health and well-being to contribute to improving the health and well being of local communities. Fundamentally it means focusing on how communities can be healthy places to live and not concentrating on how the health of individuals can be improved.

While local government is not a direct provider it does have an important complementary role in advocating for healthy public policies or a range of primary, secondary and tertiary health care services; mobilising responses and resources for the wider community through social planning functions, or assistance in establishing community projects; and facilitating a range of functions that allow other bodies, notably non-government sector, to support services.

Many of these projects interlink because they have been developed to deliver aspects of a strategic, integrated and far seeing vision. Some of these projects will be long-term developments, but all of these projects have been designated as priorities. It is essential therefore that Council be able to make a start on all of these projects – to demonstrate and develop this strategic and integrated approach within 10 years.

Council has the crucial role of ‘holding the whole picture’ and interlinking what could otherwise become well intentioned but uncoordinated strands of development and change.

The role of Council includes work on projects that it will lead and drive but also on projects that will be lead by other partners. This will often mean supporting connections to local groups with their local information and expertise, networking, community promotion and consultation. Council will therefore need to be able to develop capacities for creating and maintaining substantial community involvement.

The time to fulfil these roles should not be overlooked. There needs to be enough capacity to maintain momentum.