



Light  
Regional  
Council

## Economic Development - Precincts Policy

**Reference Number:**  
**Responsible Department:**  
**Related Policy/Procedure:**

Section 4 No. 13  
Economic Development  
2.02 Code of Code for Council Members  
2.04 Code of Conduct for Council  
Employees  
4.03 Separate Rate Policy  
6.15 Fraud & Corruption Prevention Policy  
6.19 Developer Engagement Statement of  
Business Ethics Policy  
24 July 2018  
22 June 2021  
2021/138  
Original  
Local Government Act, 1999  
June 2024  
Triennially

**Date of Adoption:**  
**Current Review Date:**  
**Minute Reference:**  
**Version Number:**  
**Applicable Legislation:**  
**Next Review Date:**  
**Review Frequency:**

### 1. Introduction

Economic Development is a Council function aligned with sections 6, 7 & 8 of the *Local Government Act, 1999*, particularly the parts of these sections that seek that Council:

- Encourages and develops initiatives within its community for improving the quality of life for its community;
- Promotes its area to provide an attractive climate and locations for the development of business, commerce, industry and tourism;
- Gives due weight, in all its plans, policies and activities, to regional, State and national objectives and strategies concerning the economic, social, physical and environmental development and management of the community; and
- Seeks to facilitate sustainable development and the protection of the environment and to ensure a proper balance within its community between economic, social, environmental and cultural considerations.

Light Regional Council's Economic Development Department engages in investment attraction through different means. These include:

- Targeted communications;
- Meeting prospective investors face-to-face;
- Involvement in regional representation groups, such as the RDA Barossa, Barossa Tourism and Business Alliances;
- Liaison with State and Federal Governments with respect to funding attraction and investment support programs and opportunities;
- Strategic development, including key activation projects across the district; and
- Strategic precinct identification – being key locations within the Council district available for promotion to active investors for a wide range of development opportunities.

Policy No:	Section 4 No. 13	Date of this Policy:	22 June 2021	Page 1 of 4
Version:	Amendment No. 1			

## 2. Objective

Light Regional Council supports economic development to contribute to the sustainable growth of a strong district economy facilitating increased employment and wealth and therefore contributing to improved quality of life for the whole community.

This Economic Development - Precincts Policy highlights the diverse opportunities that Light Regional Council provides for investment in key activity sectors including primary production/primary production value-adding, tourism, industry, education, commercial, retail, community services and residential growth (in certain locations), based upon established and developing precinct opportunities.

## 3. Policy Statement

Light Regional Council is committed to facilitating an environment that supports an innovative and resilient business community which provides sustainable economic growth and investment, allied education and skills development and diverse employment opportunities aligned with the region's strengths.

## 4. Scope

This policy supports legislated functions held by Council with respect to development assessment and informs decision-making and development of all other relevant Council policies, strategies and actions as well as the delivery of Council's services and operations and the actions of contractors, volunteers, staff and Councillors alike.

## 5. Principles

Council will:

- In partnership with key stakeholders, actively position and promote Light Regional Council as a preferred place to live, work, learn, visit and invest based on an economy that is diverse, sustainable, innovative and inclusive.
- Recognise that, in all its roles, responsibilities and activities, Council may influence and support investment and development, business prosperity and innovation, diverse employment and learning opportunities.
- Aim to provide an environment that supports and nurtures the existing business community to grow and prosper, whilst encouraging new opportunities to gain a foothold and thrive as opportunities allow.
- Ensure that the activities of Council are undertaken in a way that does not unnecessarily delay or hinder developments that are consistent with Council and community objectives.
- Through its purchasing and procurement processes and decision-making, where all other evaluation criteria are equal - Council will as far as practicable undertake procurement that supports the local business community and employment opportunities.
- Work collaboratively with regional partners and stakeholders with the aim of strengthening and complementing existing markets, services, products and programs.
- Ensure that Council, through its actions and decisions, supports the local business community on equal terms wherever possible.

- Encourage a local economy where businesses continuously innovate to operate in a socially sustainable and environmentally sensitive manner.

## 6. Policies and Precincts

The Planning and Design Code (prepared and maintained by the State Planning Commission) outlines the relevant policies against which development proposals within the district are assessed and determined. Application processing and decision-making is undertaken in accordance with the relevant State legislation (*Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act, 2016*).

This Policy recognises the role and responsibilities of the Council as a statutory authority with respect to this legislation. Accordingly, this Policy encourages sharing of information with potential investors to promote regional opportunities in key precincts aligned with the relevant development policies, any grant opportunities and/ or other investment assistance as may be available at a given time.

The following key precincts are noted as example areas of potential investor interest aligned with the objectives of this policy (n.b. this is not intended as an exhaustive listing):

- Roseworthy Township Expansion (RTE)
- Kingsford Regional Industrial Estate (KRIE)
- Barossa Valley Character District, including Seppeltsfield Road
- Five Shillings Estate
- Township Economic Activity Areas (e.g. Main Streets and Town Centres)
- Roseworthy College
- Industrial Parks (Kapunda, Freeling, Roseworthy)
- Primary Production Zone (e.g. value-adding opportunities)

Precinct Plans have been prepared for information only and are appended to this Policy for reference.

## 7. Roles and Responsibilities

Council's Economic Development Department has a leadership role in coordinating activities that will encourage the Council district to be to be a place of business prosperity and local employment.

It is the role of Council to support this Policy in actions and decision-making.

It is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer and the General Manager Group to develop a culture that understands and values the importance of economic prosperity, and therefore local employment opportunities, on the wellbeing and sustainability of the whole community and its environs.

It is the responsibility of the Managers and Coordinators within Light Regional Council to ensure that all staff consider the economic development implications of projects, programs, events, services and products.

## 8. Confidentiality

It is noted that the Freedom of Information Act 1991 (SA) (FOI Act) gives members of the public rights to access documents of the Council. The FOI Act promotes openness in governance and accountability of government agencies and confers the public with a legally enforceable right to be given access to documents, including contracts entered into by the Council, except those contracts or provisions which should be kept confidential for public interest purposes, the preservation of personal privacy or are commercial in confidence.

## 9. Definitions

**Economic:** relates to broader considerations relating to the wealth of an area, the production or consumption of goods and services of a region, the business community and employment. (In the context of this policy this is an external consideration).

**Economic Development:** relates to increasing an area's level of income and wealth, and distributing that wealth through local expenditure and jobs to the community. This notion applies equally to geographic areas of any size, whether it is a nation, State, region or Local Government Area. On this basis, a fundamental performance measure in economic development is the number and type of jobs that are provided locally and regionally, as well as the level of investment within the district.

**Precinct:** An area or place identified for administrative purposes, in this instance to identify areas likely to attract economic development.

## History

- Policy adopted at Council meeting held 24 July 2018 Minute reference Item 13.3.3 at page 2018/267
- Amendment No. 1 adopted by Council on 22 June 2021, Page Reference 2021/138, Minute Reference STR10.1/2021