



Outback Communities Authority
STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN
2020-25



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Message from the Presiding Member



To Everyone in the Outback Community

I urge you to read the OCA's Strategic Management Plan 2020-2025. I hope you will agree that the directions and targets are positive, ambitious and challenging ... but that is how it should be. The goals to Grow Our Economy, Sustain Our Community and Grow our Influence and Presence, will hopefully be seen as much needed and fundamental, even though they will stretch the OCA's resources, already under pressure.

I would like to draw your attention to an especially important part of the Plan, which has been developed in response to some growing concerns about the sustainability of our unique, volunteer based, model of managing community affairs in the outback. Addressing this concern in a positive and optimistic way, the OCA has built into this Strategic Management Plan, the following critical strategy:

"Undertake a broad and comprehensive engagement process with Outback people asking their views and aspirations and how to achieve a better and more resilient community into the future"

This strategy will be delivered through what the OCA has called, the Outback Futures Project, and details will be announced very soon.

The OCA hopes the initiative will provide valuable feedback and become a cornerstone on which we all build the Outback region's near and immediate future.

This community engagement is therefore a core part of the OCA's strategic direction and we hope the conversation is, above all, a positive one ... *where we are all inspired by the wonderful and unique attributes of our region ...* and the even greater place it can be.

I look forward to a lively conversation about the region's future, which will both inform and stimulate achievement of the OCA's strategic directions.

Kind regards

Bill McIntosh AM

Who we are

The **Outback Communities Authority (OCA)** has a role to be an advocate for the Outback Community and to be a champion of a modern, innovative and sustainable Outback that creates economic prosperity and community vibrancy for the region and its people.

With this in mind we have reviewed our strategic priorities from 2015 - 2020 and are now actively seeking to gain investment in this important region, including investment in the OCA to facilitate sustainable growth.

We have limited resources and must work in partnership with the community and with Government at all levels along with other partners to realise our strategic objectives for the Outback. We are committed in our role as the voice of the Outback to achieve the medium to long term outcomes outlined in this plan.

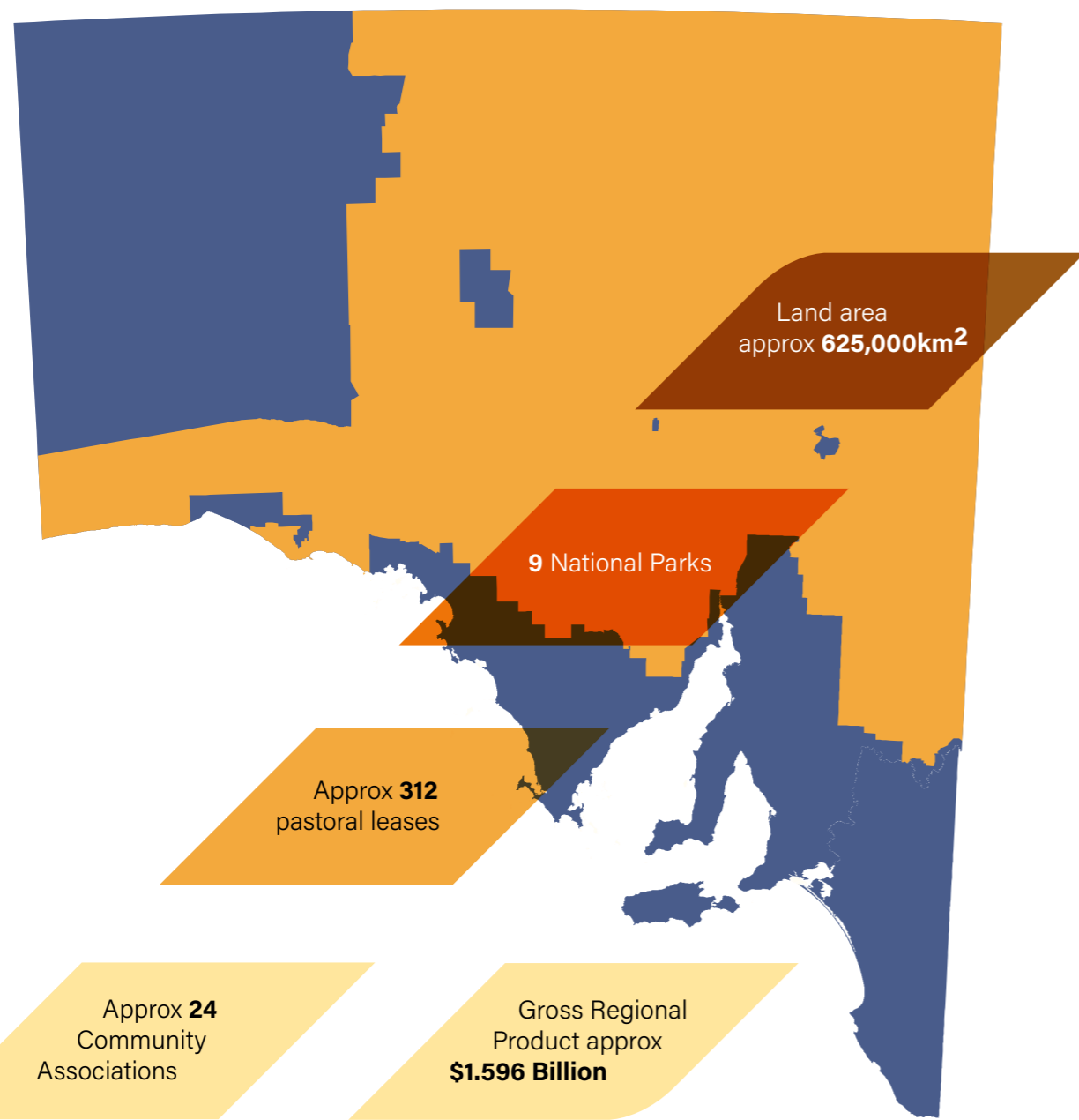
The OCA

- **7 BOARD MEMBERS** SUPPORTED BY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF BASED IN PORT AUGUSTA AND LEIGH CREEK
- BOARD MEMBER TERMS ARE EITHER FOR **3 YEARS OR 18 MONTHS**
- FUNDED THROUGH A VARIETY OF MECHANISMS INCLUDING THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

**Outback region
63% of SA**

Port Augusta

APPROXIMATELY
4,000 - 4,500 PEOPLE
RESIDE AND WORK IN THE OUTBACK



Our Purpose

- To improve the lives of people in the Outback
- To ensure the voice of the Outback Community is heard where and when it counts
- To empower the Outback Community to help themselves

Our Mission

The Outback Communities Authority is the Voice of the Outback Community

Our Vision

An inspired and empowered community will ensure a more resilient Outback into the future

Our Values

- Be respectful
- Value relationships
- Be agile
- Be bold
- Be relevant to the Outback Community
- Base decisions on good information
- Be efficient with our resources



Our Objectives

Grow Our Economy

Facilitate new opportunities and new investment in the Outback.

Working in partnership with other regional and sector partners, we will:

- Support the development of Outback tourism strategies and opportunities that promotes diversification of the economy and incorporates enhanced visitor experiences that capitalise on the natural beauty of the region.
- Initiate a Regional Workforce Development Strategy that identifies current and future regional opportunities to promote regional employment growth and educational opportunities.

Working in partnership with the Outback Community, we will:

- Develop favourable environments for new investment in the Outback through the continual improvements in essential services and infrastructure.
- Identify and actively support opportunities for diversification that create sustainable economic development in the region.

Sustain Our Community

Promote a shared vision for improving the 'liveability' of the Outback for those that live, work and visit.

Working in partnership with our government, regional and sector partners, we will:

- Advocate for the development of infrastructure that facilitates economic growth and is sustainable to meet the needs for the region, inclusive of:
 - All communities having access to mobile and internet communication by 2025
 - An all-weather road network to key locations by 2030, including sealing the Strzelecki track
 - Installation of sustainable power supplies at all communities by 2030
 - Sealing an additional 2 airstrips by 2022
 - Ensuring access to potable water for communities by 2022
 - Improved waste management including the availability of recycling by 2022.
- Develop partnerships with service providers to improve the quality of service provision to the Outback.
- Work to create attractive environments and conditions for existing and new members of the Outback Community.
- Support the implementation of the Regional Recreation and Sport Plan.

Working in partnership with the Outback Community, we will:

- Consolidate and improve the overall standard of community owned assets through Community Affairs Resourcing and Management (CARM) agreements and other flexible funding strategies.
- Improve public toilets and signage in strategic locations by 2022.

Grow Our Influence and Presence

Articulate the needs of Outback people and promote the OCA's key role in decision making for the Outback.

Working in partnership with other regional and sector partners, we will:

- Bring to Government decision making an awareness of remote and very remote community issues, and promote the OCA as first point of contact for pivotal strategic decision makers on Outback matters.

Working in partnership with the Outback Community, we will:

- Undertake a broad and comprehensive engagement process with Outback people asking their views and aspirations and how to achieve a better and more resilient community into the future.
- Be effective leaders in supporting Outback communities to achieve their aims.
- Continue to foster high standards of governance and accountability through CARM agreements.
- Actively promote our cultural assets and diversity.
- Continue to implement a communications strategy that:
 - Promotes key messages for priority issues
 - Celebrates our successes
 - Promotes the positive aspects of Outback lifestyle and the beauty of the Outback
 - Effectively engages with Outback communities so that they remain informed.

OCA Looking Forward

Regional Collaboration

The OCA works closely with the Outback Community along with State and national governments in the planning and delivery of public services and facilities to Outback communities. We have strong established networks that engage with the OCA prior to the implementation of new services and facilities in the Outback. The OCA will continue to foster and develop these relationships for the overall development of the Outback Community.

Long-Term Asset Management

The OCA has a responsibility to manage and promote improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to Outback communities. In doing so, the OCA will consider the long-term requirements for maintenance, replacement and development of infrastructure within its control. To ensure public services are provided in an efficient and sustainable way the OCA will develop and adhere to long-term management plans setting out the maintenance, replacement and development requirements for infrastructure and facilities across the Outback.



OCA Forward Estimates 2020-2025 (Long-Term Financial Plan)

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000

Revenue

Local Government Grants Commission (Federal Grants)	1,612	1,666	1,725	1,768	1,811
State Appropriation	2,133	1,390	1,419	1,444	1,469
Community Contribution Schemes	455	459	463	467	471
Other Revenue	1,197	1,102	1,110	1,137	1,145
Total Revenue	5,397	4,617	4,717	4,816	4,896

Expenditure

Corporate	748	762	776	791	806
Community Development	1,890	1,926	1,962	2,000	2,039
Infrastructure	2,905	1,920	1,966	2,012	2,057
Total Expenditure	5,543	4,608	4,704	4,803	4,902





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