

5. OUTCOMES, ACTIVITIES AND KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS, April 2017

Outcome 1: Regional Plan - A current three to five-year plan that focusses on economic development of the RDA region taking into account Commonwealth, state, territory and local government plans.			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Maintain and develop a regional consultation network.	Ongoing communications with DSD and other State government agencies with regard to identification of key issues and projects to help address Whyalla's depressed economy, and current and future challenges.	RDAWEP provides information regarding current and future RDAWEP plans, projects and resource requirements.	Communication is ongoing in regard to State Government support for multiple projects and initiatives including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continuation of implementation of Whyalla's Masterplan for disability and aging; • Heavy Industry Cluster, in particular industry diversification and engagement with defence industry re opportunities for supply to defence build programs. Ongoing communication with government agencies in regard to co-funding two projects 1) Industry Supply Chain Coordinator and 2) Disability and Ageing Implementation officer. No support for either project has been forthcoming.
	Communication in regard to "Meet the Buyer" event and defence engagement workshop planned for Early May.		
	A regional network has been established that includes the following Aboriginal organisations: Yalata, Scotdesco, Koonibba, Ceduna, Aboriginal Lands Trust, and Port Lincoln. The network also includes the Transitional Accommodation Centre, Housing SA, DPMC - Ceduna, Regional Health Ceduna, Save the Children, Red Cross, Ceduna Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service, the homeland groups (Munda & Wanna Mar, Bullinda, Munda Munda Wadutjinna, Tia Tuckia, Akenta and Ikkata. Business ventures that include Walga Mining in Whyalla, and the Playford Avenue Arcade are also in the network. Both of the regions natural resource management groups are also part of the network (EPNRM and AWRM)	RDAWEP co-ordinated the provision of a quote to upgrade the kitchen and extend the building of the Far West Aboriginal Sporting Complex. RDAWEP assisted with the funding application to Department of Treasury for financial support and followed up with Ceduna Council on the progress of the water management plan. A discussion was held with DPMC regarding the future of the ID Tect Machines. A further discussion is required with the Liquor Licensing Commission re Hotel Licence conditions.	A quote for the building and kitchen upgrade has been obtained. Ceduna council advised that the plan should be delivered by 30/05/2017.
	RDAWEP has established a local government tourism advisory group to identify common priorities and maximise opportunity.	Ongoing	Ongoing

Outcome 1: Regional Plan			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Maintain and develop a regional consultation network (Cont'd).	Phone link ups with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDAWEP's Employment and Skills Development Manager, Peter Mitchell to discuss potential training programs that have been identified in the Whyalla area. • Department of State Development Regional Manager, Tim Coote for an update on projects. 		
	RDAWEP's Career Practitioner, Paula Wilson attended the NDIS workshop at Wudinna.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Monday morning the RDAWEP team participate in a meeting to discuss the working week and upcoming work and meetings. • Meeting with Felice Rehabilitation Plus regarding available grant funding for infrastructure and wages. • Visited TAFESA students undertaking the Certificate III in Individual Support (Disability). • Interviews held with the Multi-Trades Project participants. These appointments were held individually to discuss any barriers they may have as they enter a full time training program. • Meeting with Tim Breuer regarding a support letter for the Disability Training Project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Mardi Webber from Return to Work regarding the programs associated with Mental Health in the workplace. • Attended a walk through Orana with the Disability Employment Project students. • Phone meeting with Di Richter from DSD regarding the Disability Employment Project. • Attended the NDIS forum in Wudinna. • Met with City of Whyalla CEO, Chris Cowley and Mayor Lyn Breuer regarding the Disability and Ageing Masterplan project. • Attended the Whyalla Meet the Buyer event. • Attended the defence industry briefing. • Attended the UniSA graduation. <p>April has been dedicated to workforce development in both the heavy industry and disability industry sectors.</p>	<p>All meetings are identifying new employment and training opportunities in Whyalla as well as ensuring that RDAWEP has effective working relationships with key stakeholders in the disability and ageing sectors.</p> <p>All meetings attended are having a direct positive impact on the Disability and Ageing Masterplan project and the Industry and Skills Brokerage project.</p>
	Minutes from the Community Services Advisory Group meeting were finalised and distributed.	Detailed minutes recorded information from guest presenters and table discussions. These have proven to be a valuable source of information exchange amongst members of the group and external organisations attending as guests to each meeting.	Common issues across the network, successful inter-agency programs, service updates and other information exchanged provides broader awareness and opportunities for inter-agency planning.
Document regional intelligence about key issues supported by research and data.	A capability mapping exercise is ongoing for a range of heavy industry businesses with operations in and around the Whyalla area.	A process was developed to capture detailed information about the capabilities of heavy industry businesses and their supply chains.	This project has been on hold so that work on other identified priorities could be progressed. This project has been given a higher priority and will be progressed during 2017.
	RDAWEP is awaiting release of the KPMG report from the Department of State Development regarding the NDIS in our region.		

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Document regional intelligence about key issues supported by research and data (Cont'd).	RDAWEP staff members x3 participated in a SA EPA workshop on Nearshore Marine Condition Reporting for southern Spencer Gulf.	RDAWEP along with EPNRM staff provided commentary on and feedback to SA EPA in relation to management responses to pressures. RDAWEP and EPNRM should continue to work with industry and City of Port Lincoln/SA Water to address nutrient and sediment inputs.	SA EPA acknowledged that there was still further data analysis to be completed, specifically in relation to assessing potential stormwater impacts, SA Water wastewater discharges, and current/flow direction distribution of nutrient inputs from aquaculture operations. Areas of Proper Bay and a locality around southern Boston Bay were identified for their declining ecosystem conditions.
	Regular regional tourism statistics are collated, interpreted and distributed.	Ongoing	Ongoing
	A volunteer organisation survey was edited ready for mail out. A distribution list of relevant organisations was created from RDAWEP's database.	The survey has been forwarded to RDAWEP marketing personnel for further consultation with other programs (eg employment skills and training programs). Once finalised the survey will be distributed to organisations that utilise volunteers.	The survey analysis will be useful for RDAWEP programming and for information to stakeholder organisations.
Distribute and promote Regional Plans.			
Maintain a database of regional stakeholders.	61 changes were made to the database in April.	At 30 April, the database listed 5,074 contacts.	

Outcome 2: Critical issues - Advice to the Government on critical issues affecting the RDA region.			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Pursue an integrated, cross-agency approach to regional development.	RDAWEP's Tourism Development Manager, Brad Riddle, represents and advocates for regional South Australia and Eyre Peninsula as a board member of the South Australian Tourism Industry Council.	RDAWEP ensures that the priorities of regional South Australia are reflected in SATIC's plans and operations and that SATIC provides an effective platform for its regional tourism members.	Ongoing
	RDAWEP represents and advocates for Eyre Peninsula as a member of the South Australian Regional Tourism Network.	Attend bi-monthly meetings representing the Eyre Peninsula Tourism industry, RDAWEP and EPLGA.	Ongoing
	RDAWEP represents and advocates for Eyre Peninsula tourism in the development of the DEWNR/SATC Nature Based Tourism Strategy (NBTS).	Opportunities have been identified in Eyre Peninsula National Parks and crown lands.	Ongoing
	RDAWEP represents and advocates for Eyre Peninsula tourism with EPNRM.	Ongoing	Ongoing
	RDAWEP is working with Whyalla employers to identify potential training opportunities for new employees through the Jobs First Employment Project.		

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Pursue an integrated, cross-agency approach to regional development (Cont'd).	RDAWEP is working closely with Whyalla employers to discuss training and employment requirements.	These conversations/meetings are important as we are linking certain requirements of employers to the Jobs First Employment Projects.	
	RDAWEP continue to work with the Whyalla City Council to ensure work being undertaken is in line with their Strategic Plan.	The newly developed Strategic Plan is now finalised.	
	RDAWEP is working with DSD to establish employment and training projects that can assist Whyalla with new employment opportunities and also to assist companies diversify their business by upskilling their existing staff. A fortnightly meeting occurs with Tim Coote, Regional Manager, DSD.		
	RDAWEP met with Manager Regional Services, Novita Children's Services regarding NDIS services for children in the region, with particular focus on Aboriginal communities.	RDAWEP gave an overview of Aboriginal services in the region and provided Novita with contacts in each service. Also discussed was the work being done by the Department of State Development and AHCSA. Contacts for these agencies was provided. Other potential partnerships were suggested including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFDS for transport and combined outreach clinics • Ceduna Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service for client assisted telehealth support. 	Novita Children's' Services is a not-for-profit organisation which has a long history in the State as a service provider for children's services. The contacts provided to the Regional Manager at this meeting will be valuable to Novita and potentially to the organisations contacted. If service models are developed in partnership with these organisations and accepted by DSD for financial backing they will have a positive impact on the success of NDIS for children and their families in the region.
	RDAWEP met with Eyre Futures and TAFE SA to discuss the potential for a Work Ready program for personal carers and other manual skills, to meet the needs of NDIS participants in Ceduna.	RDAWEP provided a letter of support to Eyre Futures for their grant application.	Outcome of grant application is to be advised.
	RDAWEP met with ReturntoWorkSA re Mentally Healthy Workplaces program.	RDAWEP provided contacts with other relevant agencies in Port Lincoln to deliver information, workshops and training for employers to develop mentally healthy workplaces. Received information for RDAWEP and displayed in prominent locations for staff access.	To be determined
Pursue opportunities for collaborative projects.	Regular communication including monthly meetings with Whyalla Chamber of Commerce.	Meetings as scheduled to discuss a range of issues.	Knowledge and understanding of WCC/RDAWEP activity and projects remains strong with positive collaboration on projects and initiatives.

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Pursue opportunities for collaborative projects(Cont'd).	Arrangements for the TAR Centenary event at Ooldea on 17 October were substantially progressed. This included progressing the infrastructure and safety logistics, and finalising a quotation for the provision of chemical toilets.	Project Update No 2 was distributed for the information of attendees registered on the event database. This included the provision of the Maralinga Tours brochure and information about accommodation at Maralinga Village. The RDAWEP recommended official guest list was drafted for provision to the National Railway Museum.	Drafting commenced on Project Update No 3, which includes information about other nearby accommodation options and tourism attractions.
	RDAWEP is connecting the three tiers of government plus the relative NGO's to develop the "Far West Aboriginal Tourism" strategy.	A third workshop was held on 18/04/2017 and was attended by Aboriginal organisations and stakeholder representatives. Some additional changes were recommended. Enthusiasm remains high and very good input was given to the slogan and logo.	Existing tourism operators recognised the benefits that a regional strategy will have, this includes marketing and value adding to their ventures.
	RDAWEP continue to work with the Whyalla City Council to ensure that work being undertaken is in line with their existing and future Strategic Plan.		
Engage with Local Government on regional planning and economic development.	Regular communication including monthly meetings with Whyalla Council senior management. 2x meetings.	Meetings as scheduled to discuss a range of issues including activity plans.	Knowledge and understanding of WCC/RDAWEP activity, projects, collaboration on projects and initiatives continues to improve.
	RDAWEP CEO and staff met with Whyalla City Council CEO and local businesses to discuss economic development.	Meetings took place across Whyalla at proposed development sites, business premises and council offices.	Whyalla City Council have used RDAWEP developed documents in their budget planning process.
	RDAWEP CEO and staff member attended DC of Franklin Harbour council meeting in Cowell.	All council items were noted and input provided where needed.	DC of Franklin Harbour Mayor and CEO thanked RDAWEP for attending, gaining a better understanding of council issues, and meeting with Councillors.
	The Draft Regional Strategic Plan was completed and distributed to the CEOs of RDAWEP, EPNRM and EPLGA for value-adding and refinement.	The format for the evidence-based Regional Analysis was set as part of this document preparation.	The Regional Analysis cannot be completed until 2016 census data are released by the ABS after June 2017.
	Discussions were had with Mayor Suter of Ceduna in relation to meeting with the Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation, the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation and local people in relation to ownership of the parcel of land designated for the wildlife sanctuary.	The next meeting is planned for May 17 th .	
	RDAWEP met with the Ceduna District Council to support improvements to the Aboriginal Sporting Complex.	Council advised that the water management plan is expected to be obtained by 30/05/2017.	
	A meeting was held with Whyalla City Councils Group Manager for City Growth and Delivery to discuss potential tourist and other commercial related activities.	The Growth Manager continues to assist with the tourist activity, and the hospitality venture being established.	Two projects have proposals being considered by the Whyalla City Council.

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What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Engage with Local Government on regional planning and economic development (Cont'd).	Consultation with local government about regional priorities.	RDAWEP developed a Draft Whyalla Priority Projects Statement to support the City of Whyalla in their Annual Business and Budget Planning process as well as to support negotiations with potential funding and investment stakeholders.	City of Whyalla's Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget 2017-2018, and RDAWEP economic development strategic directions are now strongly aligned.
	Ensure all councils have an adequate understanding of the visitor economy and provide advice and expertise on tourism development.	RDAWEP meets regularly with local government regarding tourism. RDAWEP presented a new proposal for regional tourism development to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPLGA Executive Meeting • EPLGA Conference • EPLGA CEO's Forum 	Ongoing The EPLGA's CEO committee meeting is scheduled for June 2017 where a regional-wide funding model to be applied to local government in order to underwrite strategy will be discussed.
	Provide regular information to local government including active promotion of RDAWEP plans.	Relevant statistics distributed.	Ongoing
	Each month, RDAWEP hold meetings with the Whyalla City Council on several areas of the Disability and Ageing Masterplan work being undertaken ensuring the Masterplan work is in line with the WCC's Strategic Plan.		
	RDAWEP obtained estimates on behalf of DC Elliston for expansion of their aged care facilities.	Information was received from Whyalla Aged Care with a rough costing for a similar expansion project. CHSA costings relating to the expansion in Ceduna were not possible to isolate from the major hospital upgrade.	To be determined.
	RDAWEP participated in a workshop to assist development of the DC Lower Eyre Peninsula Disaster Recovery Plan.	Approximately 40 people attended the workshop, representing a broad range of community and service organisations. RDAWEP was identified as a "go to" for small business support after losses were incurred from disastrous events.	Disaster Recovery Plan to be finalised.
	RDAWEP attended the DC Lower Eyre Peninsula Health & Ageing Project Steering Committee meeting.	Information from RDAWEP provided additional stakeholder agencies to the engagement strategy. Knowledge of health services and access preferences by residents in DCLEP areas adjacent to Port Lincoln and Tumby Bay were also added to the project brief.	RDAWEP's position on the steering committee is valued and an RDAWEP replacement for the exiting member will be sought.

Outcome 3: Priority activities - Advice on priority activities that will drive regional economic development, on future economic opportunities and on the RDA region's comparative advantages, based on consultation and engagement with community leaders. *(Priority activities are those with an economic focus where the RDA takes a lead or supporting role. RDAs should identify if they are taking a lead or supporting role.*

What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Human Capital - REGIONAL PRIORITY: <i>Develop and retain a skilled workforce.</i>			
Develop sustainable employment networks.	RDAWEP is working with students from Mission Australia who are attending the New Opportunities Training.		
	RDAWEP is working with Plaza Youth to assist their students with careers advice, resumes and cover letters.		
	RDAWEP Career Practitioner gave a talk about resumes and work ready skills to TAFE students attending engineering training.		
	RDAWEP have been working with local employers to identify employment and training opportunities within the disability and ageing sectors.	Four JFEP applications are being developed for Whyalla. These project applications pertain to disability, ageing, heavy industry and the retail/hospitality sectors.	
Provide career development services.	In the 2016/2017 Port Lincoln/Eyre CDS program, 31 participants have commenced. Of these 3 have been exited.	Each of the 3 participants exited have gained additional employment.	Not yet.
	RDAWEP has applied to DSD to deliver enhanced career services for the whole of Eyre Peninsula for disability sector careers between February and June 2017 to job seekers and existing workers who have identified they wish to work or upskill for work in the disability sector. A National Disability Services (NDS) Employment Coordinator will connect with employers to identify emerging employment opportunities. Career Service providers will play a part in assisting local employers to access workers with appropriate attitudes and skills for work in the disability sector.	The application has been successful and RDAWEP has since subcontracted this work to SkillsSmart who has reported that there is considerable interest in participation in the disability sector.	Not yet.
	RDAWEP has applied to the Department of State Development to provide Career Development Service (CDS) services in the 2017/2018 year.	The application has been successful and work will commence July 1 st .	
	RDAWEP offers a shop front service to the community of Whyalla. They can provide services to assist people into work, to increase their hours of work, or advice with a career change.	RDAWEP has seen 122 participants through the CDC to date. Some participants need just 1 appointment whilst others come back for support with other job applications. RDAWEP offers support through empowering the job seeker to understand about self-marketing and meeting the needs of the employer.	24 employment outcomes have been captured so far.

Outcome 3: Priority activities			
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Deliver targeted projects to support workforce development and participation.	<p>A detailed project proposal for an accelerated vocational training project was developed in the second half of 2016. A primary aim of the project is to build capability of the local workforce for defence and heavy industry projects. The program involves focussed multi- trade vocational training combined with industry placement to develop work skills.</p> <p>The project has required strong collaboration with TAFESA and multiple meetings with DSD, TAFE, AWU local, AMWU, local and national management.</p> <p>A DSD requirement for this project was to seek endorsement from relevant unions and industry associations. Although strongly supported at the local level the proposal was not supported by Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union National Coordinator, Skills, Training and Apprenticeships Policy.</p> <p>Significant changes were required to the original proposal in order to incorporate AMWU requirements.</p> <p>A Job and Person Specification to enable engagement of a mentor (or mentors) to manage employer engagement and assist students throughout the program was developed.</p>	<p>The proposal titled <i>"Building capability for defence industry projects through focussed vocational training and industry placement"</i> was presented to and discussed at multiple Heavy Industry Cluster meetings.</p> <p>The heavy industry group are highly supportive of the project and will provide support via supervised work placements for students during their practical program.</p> <p>DSD advised to incorporate changes into a Jobs First Employment Project application. A revised project and JFEP funding application was submitted to DSD for assessment on 15 February.</p> <p>DSD subsequently advised that the project did not meet criteria for the JFEP program and would not be funded. The application was subsequently withdrawn. TAFESA directly negotiated with DSD to have the project internally funded.</p> <p>Some additional modifications to the project were subsequently required, including withdrawal of the student mentoring/support component.</p>	<p>The program commenced on 11 April with 15 participants commencing Engineering units, and 15 commencing Electro-technology units. Half way through the project the teams will switch. The training schedule was finalised. Following an "expression of interest" promotion there was strong interest in the program from potential applicants who were largely people under 25:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 53 Expressions of interest received • 44 attended information sessions • 30 students selected to start the program • 3 further expressions of interest were received after the closing date. <p>Participants attended an information session and testing.</p> <p>The program, student progress and industry engagement will be monitored by a steering committee with representatives from industry, RDAWEP, TAFE and DSD. The steering committee was established and meetings will be scheduled monthly.</p> <p>Industry Engagement – Employers will be asked to provide a guest speaker to provide information about what their workplace tasks will include and employer's expectations, importance of safety, a drug free environment etc.</p> <p>A modified Jobs First Employment Project application may be developed to provide funding required to deliver the mentoring component in the second half of 2017 (not able to be delivered by TAFE SA). The steering committee will review and advise about this requirement.</p>
	<p>A Jobs First Employment Project (JFEP) application was submitted to DSD for an employment project for Housing SA. The primary objective is to establish a pool of experienced and competent jobseekers to provide room maintenance, yard maintenance, catering and administration services to itinerate Aboriginal people who need short term accommodation, help and welfare assistance. A secondary objective is for local mainstream employers to have access to a ready and available skilled workforce in the medium and longer-term.</p>	<p>The Housing SA application has been successful. This is a paid training program in Ceduna for fifteen Aboriginal people in the skills needed to maintain services at the Ceduna Town Accommodation Centre (TAC). Housing SA will be the employer and will assist during the program to ensure that as many of the fifteen participants as possible are well prepared to apply for ten new positions when they are advertised immediately after the training is completed.</p>	<p>Training will be delivered by TAFE SA and the training units have been selected to best suit the demands of the jobs and they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participate in safe food handling practices, • prepare rooms for guests and residents, • operate basic machinery and equipment, • write simple informal workplace texts, • first aid and OH&S.

Outcome 3: Priority activities			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Deliver targeted projects to support workforce development and participation (Cont'd).	A submission is currently being prepared for the retail sector in Port Lincoln. It is hoped that this may be replicated in Ceduna.		
	The CDC is contacting Whyalla employers to ascertain how RDAWEP, through DSD can assist with training requirements for new workers.	One Jobs First Employment Project has been approved and another two applications are ready for the next round of DSD funding.	
	Dementia Essentials training programs are fully booked for sessions in Whyalla and Streaky Bay.	Whyalla sessions commenced in April. Streaky Bay sessions to be held in May. A total of 51 workers are to be trained in this round, with another 25 to be trained in the next round (July 2017).	To be determined on completion of courses.
Sustainable Communities and Population Growth: Economic - REGIONAL PRIORITY: <i>Build the capacity of the community to grow the regional economy.</i>			
Increase Aboriginal participation in the labour force.	RDA is taking a lead role in developing the "Far West Aboriginal Tourism" strategy. One of the aims of the strategy is to increase Aboriginal participation in the labour force.	The Draft Tourism Strategy document, with the changes that were recommended in the December workshop, was sent to all far west Aboriginal organisations and the ALT for the April workshop. Support continues to be provided from a wide range of agencies.	The Tourism Strategy is nearing completion. It is waiting on the Ministers Message, and conformation of a slogan/logo.
	RDAWEP is developing two skills upgrade and/or training programs that will assist employees to be employed directly in the Ceduna Town Accommodation Centre. The program is being developed.	The Regional Housing SA Manager is now working directly with RDAWEP's Employment and Skills Manager to develop the training program. Town Accommodation Centre is also restructuring staff and will want supervisor training included. A draft of recommended training modules is being reviewed by the Regional Manager, and the Town Accommodation Manager.	A further meeting with Housing SA has moved this project out by three months to meet existing employment contracts with a labour hire group.
	As part of the Service Reform in Ceduna, CAC are purchasing a 23 seater bus. RDAWEP is examining the possibility of funding the bus drivers licence accreditation for five drivers.	The 23 seater bus has been purchased, CAC are identifying which participants will be most suitable for training to obtain the appropriate licence.	
	RDAWEP supports the development of an Aboriginal Tourism Strategy for the Far West Coast of Eyre Peninsula aimed at increasing the economic benefit of tourism to Aboriginal Communities.	Provided ongoing support and advice to the Indigenous Economic Development Manager in relation to the development of the strategy and actions.	RDAWEP developed 17 logo concepts for consultation, and complimentary design/formatting of the Draft Aboriginal Tourism Strategy document.
	Ceduna Town Accommodation – This is a Jobs First Employment Project (JFEP) aimed at employing local aboriginal people who will soon exit a labour hire company. Participants will be offered training in five units total from skill clusters in kitchen operations, cleaning operations and parks and gardens. Graduates will then be employed by Housing SA to provide catering for residents and cleaning and maintenance of the "Town Camp" property.	The units of training have been agreed and training will commence in August. The Manager Housing SA, Ceduna/Port Lincoln Far West and Remote has since requested that a component of waste management/handling and journal/reporting be added to the scope of training.	Not yet

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Increase Aboriginal participation in the labour force (Cont'd).	Meeting with Kriston Thompson, Senior Program Officer, Aboriginal Engagement Far North for an update on his clients in Whyalla.		
	Aboriginal people will have dedicated placement priority in the Certificate III in Individual Support (Disability) funded training program.		
Pursue solutions to improve small businesses innovation, skills development and viability.	A collaborative project proposal is being developed with RESA to establish a regional defence industry innovation and training hub. The project would target local and regional SME businesses aiming to enter the defence industry supply chain.	Potential activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a local and interactive business portal including an electronic database of local companies and capabilities. • Development of mechanisms for companies with projects in the region to buy local. • Link to projects and shutdown schedules. • Link to workforce skills. • Appointment of a defence industry expert to undertake an audit of defence capability, analyse gaps, and develop and deliver a tailored program to bridge gaps. New resources for the project would be based in Whyalla to work with businesses across the USG region and develop linkages with TAFE SA and UniSA.	Communication and project development is ongoing. The project requires funding, with potential sources being investigated. The project will require commitment and buy in from local industry, with some cost to industry. It also requires a State Government sponsor/advocate, which may be Ministers Maher and/or Brock.
	The Far West Aboriginal Tourism strategy has a specific objective of improving the capacity of the operators and the employees.	Funding has been approved from DPMC (\$80,000.00) to assist with the finalisation of the Far West Aboriginal Tourism Strategy, and to support the upgrading of existing organisation's business plans, to assist with additional development of tourist ventures. RDAWEP are in negotiation with DPMC in relation to the terms of the funding agreement.	Obtained in principal approval for support funding.
	Discussions continued with three existing business clients, and two new clients in Whyalla. Existing clients are in health, hospitality, and tourism.	The health related business is refurbishing offices to provide health/fitness and rehabilitation services. The tourism activity is assessing a new site closer to Whyalla for their activity. The hospitality venture is waiting on council approval.	
	Provided leadership, advice and support to the tourism industry to grow tourism.	General business development assistance was provided including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eyre Trails Project • Whyalla Tourism Focus Group. 	Research and negotiations into public liability insurance requirements for trail development is ongoing. Communications materials was prepared to support initiatives.
	Through the Industry and Skills Brokerage Role, RDAWEP has identified projects that must be undertaken in order to improve the number of Support Workers required in the disability sector.	Employers that the brokerage role has been working with include; Bedford Phoenix, Caring Choice, Whyalla Aged Care, Community Support Incorporated, Disability SA, YMCA and Orana.	

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Sustainable Communities and Population Growth: Environmental - REGIONAL PRIORITY: <i>Consider the environment when planning regional development.</i>			
Participate on the Eyre Peninsula Integrated Climate Change Agreement (EPICCA) Committee.			
Liaise with relevant agencies about solutions to address environmental issues.			
Pursue solutions to provide sustainable and abundant supplies of energy and quality water.	RDAWEP contributed to meetings in Adelaide with ESCOSA, SA Power Networks, ElectraNet, and renewable energy consultants to discuss reliability and quality of Eyre Peninsula's power supply. This is part of ESCOSA's Inquiry into Reliability and Quality of Eyre Peninsula's Electricity Supply.	RDAWEP informed the group of energy projects underway across EP such as solar farms and smart mini grids (peer to peer sharing), and the reality of connecting projects to existing networks.	ESCOSA wrote to RDAWEP thanking them for their contribution and questions during meeting.
Support the development of waste management initiatives.			
Support improved environmental infrastructure.			
Sustainable Communities and Population Growth: Social - REGIONAL PRIORITY: <i>Support development of social and community infrastructure and services to enhance liveability.</i>			
Support improved social and community infrastructure.	Ongoing communication with Whyalla Council in regard to improvement of sporting facilities. This project includes a multi-sport precinct in the city, based on re-development of Bennett oval. RDAWEP participated in a planning workshop run by consultant Oneeighty Sport and Leisure Solutions, consultant Mark Band in early February.	Planning and engagement commenced with an information session and survey distributed to sporting clubs and the local community.	Communication is ongoing. An initial draft report and concept plan was expected from the consultant during April, but is not yet forthcoming.
	A meeting was held with the Eyre Peninsula Football Zone management to discuss the process to undertake planning and subsequent recommendations for the future of football on Eyre Peninsula.	RDAWEP developed a survey form to be completed by the football clubs and leagues to be used as a tool for future recommendations.	Waiting on return of survey forms, only one received to date.
Support improved educational infrastructure.	A monthly meeting has been scheduled with UniSA Regional Manager and TAFE SA Regional Manager for the purpose of sharing intelligence and fostering collaboration.		Opportunities to develop formal links with the Heavy Industry Cluster and other projects are ongoing.
			RDAWEP continues to work closely with TAFE SA to develop and support the Accelerated Trades Training program.

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Support improved educational infrastructure (Cont'd).	During March, RDAWEP facilitated a formal meeting with shipbuilder Navantia, TAFE SA and UniSA.	The meeting included discussion about a range of current and future workforce training and skills development initiatives that could be developed and delivered in Whyalla.	Communications with Navantia are ongoing.
	RDAWEP participated in multiple meetings and a site visit to Career Employment Group Whyalla training facility.		An improved understanding of local operations, training capability and opportunities for engagement in future projects that have skills development and training requirements.
	RDAWEP has been collaborating with TAFE SA to ensure that training opportunities are in line with employment opportunities that will be available in Whyalla.		
	RDAWEP attended Alzheimer's Australia forums 'Creating Dementia Friendly Communities' and 'Preventing Dementia' in Port Lincoln.	Information received was very relevant to services and individuals in gaining a better understanding of dementia and how to support people and their symptoms.	Local councils and other service planning entities were noticeably under-represented at the forum. It is uncertain what degree of information from this forum will be incorporated into community planning.
Address health, aged and child care services and infrastructure in regional planning.	Work on specific actions of Whyalla's Masterplan for Disability and Aging has been ongoing. A formal proposal and request for co-funding support with 3 year budget was prepared and sent to Whyalla Council and DSD.	Work to progress and complete specific actions is ongoing with a focus on 12 priority actions which have been identified by the Leadership group.	Implementation work is ongoing with constrained resources. Communication with Whyalla Council and DSD in regard to funding is ongoing. Response to funding requests are not yet received. Informal advice from DSD is that State Government co-funding would not be forthcoming for this position. A meeting was arranged with Whyalla council to discuss this issue, future plans and how future implementation work could be coordinated and continued.
	A comprehensive report on the project including outcomes from the project and future plans was prepared and submitted to Whyalla Council and DSD in October 2016. This was prepared to support formal requests for co-funding.		
	Facilitation of workshops to provide stakeholder preparation for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) roll out across the region.	RDAWEP partnered with the Department of State Development to conduct a workshop on NDIS for Aboriginal communities in Wudinna on April 26.	The workshop generated discussion on supported service models which can be tested as continued networking occurs across the region.
	RDAWEP held a NDIS workshop with staff, Aboriginal community leaders, NDIA SA Engagement Team, Department of State Development, Office for the Health and Community Services Complaints Commissioner and Aboriginal Health Council of SA.	The workshop was well attended with delegates from four of the five Aboriginal communities in the region, as well as representatives from Commonwealth, State, regional and local authorities.	All participants expressed value in having attended the workshop, with potential service models and collaboration to be progressed and put forward for financial support from the participating State Government agency.
Support coastal development planning initiatives.			

Outcome 3: Priority activities			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Access to International, National and Regional Markets - REGIONAL PRIORITY: <i>Promote investment to develop strategic infrastructure and foster globally competitive business.</i>			
Assist investment attraction.	RDAWEP facilitated and hosted a visit to Whyalla by a Queensland based company looking to relocate and expand their operations. Whyalla is one of several potential sites being assessed. Relocation of the business to Whyalla would bring substantial economic benefits including jobs and investment.	Arranged and facilitated meetings with Whyalla council, TAFE SA, UniSA, schools, real estate agents and others, with visits to key sites in and around Whyalla.	The visit and feedback from the company was very positive. Communications are ongoing. Internal assessment of alternate locations is being undertaken by the company.
Support utility and transport infrastructure development.			
Pursue the development of competitive grain supply chain infrastructure.			
Pursue the development of port infrastructure, including containerisation options.	The Cape Hardy expression of preliminary interest led by RDAWEP has drawn to a close. A final report and presentation was made to Iron Road in Adelaide.		51 companies expressed an interest in being a part of the Cape Hardy development including some of the biggest port, grain and construction companies from around the world.
Support export development initiatives.			
Comparative Advantage and Regional Competitiveness - REGIONAL PRIORITY: <i>Strengthen, foster and promote the region's business and product diversity.</i>			
Provide strategic direction for provincial brand marketing, product development and new markets by food industry stakeholders.	The EP Brand Marketing Plan was developed to provide strategic direction.	The plan was completed in 15/16. Annual budget allocated for implementation.	This activity is ongoing.
Provide strategic direction for destination, brand and infrastructure development by tourism stakeholders.	The Draft Far West Aboriginal Tourism Strategy was edited and refined in preparation for publication.		
	RDAWEP is currently developing the "Far West Aboriginal Tourism" strategy. The aim of the strategy is to assist current and new Aboriginal tourism ventures to operate sustainable activities that support employment, and to change the Far West from being a drive through region to a destination that will increase the length of stays by 2 - 3 days or more. A brand is being developed for the region.	The April workshop was most successful with robust discussions in relation to the strategies content. It was agreed to choose from four draft slogans and then create a "brand".	

Outcome 3: Priority activities			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Provide strategic direction for destination, brand and infrastructure development by tourism stakeholders (Cont'd).	RDAWEP provided draft educational/directional copy for the proposed SATC Stage 1 WiFi hotspot installations for Port Lincoln and Coffin Bay.	RDAWEP is awaiting the pending results of SATC's technical negotiations with a telco provider to kick-start consultation with local government.	Ongoing
	The Eyre Peninsula Brand Program marketing plan was developed and implemented.		
	Create and distribute content for Social Media applications in order to grow social media reach.	Share the regular creation and distribution of content to meet target market needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eyre Peninsula Instagram audience grew by 4.7% to 4,305 followers. Eyre Peninsula Australia's Seafood Frontier Facebook audience grew by 1.1% to 4,474 followers. RDAWEP Facebook audience grew by 1.5% to 400. Eyrepensinsula.com increased page views by 7.2% to 9,772. Seafoodfrontier.com.au increased page views by 3.6% to 3,796. Nullarbor (digital version) decreased page views by 5.6% to 21, 787. 	This is an ongoing activity because the use of social media needs to be carefully monitored on a regular basis.
Improve the collection and use of meaningful tourism data.	The tourism strategy will recommend that all Aboriginal tourism ventures have provision for collection of data.		
Comparative Advantage and Regional Competitiveness - REGIONAL PRIORITY: <i>Strengthen, foster and promote the region's business and product diversity.</i>			
Support the development of the agricultural industry.	RDAWEP has submitted a JFEP application in conjunction with the agriculture sector to capitalise on employment opportunities in these seasonal industries. Providing unemployed and underemployed people with the skills sought after in this industry enhances the cross skilling capacity in the seasonal workforce and provides job seekers with the skills to match employer requirements. Similar programs in recent years have yielded good results when participants possess the skills required to undertake seasonal work. Whilst this project will provide participants with formal training and assistance to gain employment in a number of industries, this application is specific to requests from the agriculture industry as it faces an imminent shortage of workers for harvest and general carting.	The application has been successful. 40 participants have signed up to 5 units each in the areas of HC and MC truck driving, welding, diagnostic procedures and servicing small engines, shearing and chemical certification.	Not yet.

Outcome 3: Priority activities			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Support the development of the manufacturing industry.	A meeting of the Heavy Industry Cluster Leadership Group was organised and facilitated by RDAWEP with supporting documentation prepared and circulated. Heavy Industry Cluster project actions are ongoing.	<p>Key focus areas for the heavy industry cluster are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To pursue new opportunities, in particular, defence projects, with access, accreditation and potential collective bidding. 2. Training and workforce development including trade skill sets. 3. Connecting Whyalla to AARNet, ultra high speed internet. <p>Theuns Victor, General Manager, Arrium Steelworks is chairing the group to provide an independent industry focus. A schedule of regular strategy meetings with Theuns and RDAWEP has been established.</p>	<p>Agenda items included an update on previous presentations and projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defence Asset Recycling, • Connecting Whyalla to AARNet, • Update on Arrium, • New opportunities, • Maritime projects/manufacture and supply chain, • Navantia and CDIC Whyalla visits, • Collaboration with the newly announced Maritime Technical College, • METS program opportunities and • RESA training proposal. <p>A list of actions with a rolling three month action plan is in place and regularly updated. Work continues on multiple fronts.</p>
	<p>A project to enable commercial access to Ultra High Speed Broadband via UniSA's AARNet network is ongoing.</p> <p>The project will connect Whyalla businesses to the very high speed optic fibre cable network. Access and availability of this network will be critical for businesses in Whyalla to access future defence and other project supply chains.</p> <p>Communications with a commercial service provider, DSD and other stakeholders is ongoing to progress this project. The concept mirrors the State Government's "Gig City" project which joins multiple commercial precincts in northern Adelaide with access to very high speed broadband.</p> <p>Plans are being developed to provide commercial access in Whyalla with connections expected to commence in early 2017.</p>	<p>This project has been identified as a priority for the Heavy Industry Cluster as a means to increase access to manufacturing/heavy industry projects which increasingly rely on data rich IT systems. A regular meeting has been facilitated with representatives from industry, Whyalla Council, UniSA and Whyalla Chamber of Commerce to progress the concept of commercial access to AARNet in Whyalla. A survey of businesses was undertaken and reviewed.</p> <p>Vocus Communications manage the AARNet optic fibre network Australia wide. The company own infrastructure in Whyalla with access to the existing optic fibre network.</p>	<p>Multiple discussions and emails with Vocus Communications.</p> <p>During February 2017 Vocus met with 5 businesses in Whyalla to discuss connections. Vocus advised that meetings were positive however the company had run into some unforeseen technical problems and have been working to resolve them.</p> <p>Recent communications outlined they were close to a solution and aim to provide formal quotes to the companies that they met in Whyalla ASAP. Some indications are that the State Government is considering a Gig City concept for Whyalla (similar to northern suburbs of Adelaide where businesses have access to fibre to fibre very high speed connections).</p>
	A subgroup of the Heavy Industry Cluster has been established to investigate formal collaboration and collective bidding, to determine if/how this issue can be progressed, and the next steps.		

Outcome 3: Priority activities			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Support the development of the mining industry.	Communication with RESA is ongoing. RDAWEP reviewed a "Resources Ready Online" project proposal, prepared a letter to support the project and an application for funding to the METS growth centre grant program. RESA has developed a skills development program specifically for delivery to METS businesses in regional centres. The program targets businesses servicing the mining, and oil and gas sectors that are looking to build capability and grow their business.	RESA has submitted a funding application to the Mining Equipment Technology Services (METS) grant program. The six month program has a blended delivery model, local experienced business mentors with subject matter expert presenters. The program includes topics relating to business assessment, marketing strategy, sales and new markets.	Assessment process is in progress.
	RDAWEP introduced special purpose ships on which a power plant is installed, to government and mining businesses. The power station ships can supply up to 470 MW as a combined cycle thermal plant and can be deployed within 120 days.	RDAWEP continue to assess cost effectiveness of thermal power ships and make connections to relevant large energy users.	
	The Heavy Industry Cluster Group has been assisting TAFE SA's Multi-Trades accredited training program including developing support letters for DSD, supporting work placements and participating in Steering Committee meetings.		
Support the development of renewable energy projects.	Complex negotiations to finalise both a solar farm and a peer to peer electricity network across Eyre Peninsula are continuing.		Network operators have agreed in principal to the developments and the administration process is proceeding.
Increase Aboriginal participation in business enterprises.	RDAWEP developed a budget to assist with a new Aboriginal business that has the potential to provide 2 casual employment positions.	The venture is applying for funding support from the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation.	

Outcome 4: Project proposals – Assistance to local community stakeholders in order for them to develop project proposals; and referral of stakeholders to appropriate public and/or private funding sources - including the \$1 billion National Stronger Regions Fund.			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Support stakeholders to access government programs through assistance with business cases and grant applications.	RDAWEP has recently become a member of the Defence Teaming Centre.	Defence industry information including grant programs and DTC communications are regularly circulated to approximately 60 Whyalla and regional businesses that have expressed interest in supply to defence and the defence industry.	
	RDAWEP circulated information via newsletter and email to create awareness of the SA Government's Meet the Buyer event, and the AusIndustry defence industry briefing. Both events are scheduled for early May.		

Outcome 4: Project proposals			
What did we do? Outputs	What did we do? Outputs	What did we do? Outputs	What did we do? Outputs
Support stakeholders to access government programs through assistance with business cases and grant applications (Cont'd).	RDAWEP conducted meetings with two Whyalla based community organisations. RDAWEP provided information about grant funding, relevant programs, and application requirements and processes.		Further follow up is required with RDAWEP's business advisory service.

Outcome 5: Promote Australian Government Programs - Increased awareness of Australian Government programs in the RDA's region.			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Provide information about government programs to stakeholders.	The SA Small Steel Grant Scheme was promoted via RDAWEP's stakeholder database and regional newsletter.	RDAWEP facilitated introduction and preliminary assessment between the Office of the Industry Advocate and a Port Lincoln based steel fabricating business for grant candidacy.	
	RDAWEP has been communicating with local businesses to inform them of the newly established Industry and Skills Brokerage Role in Whyalla and the Jobs First Employment Project guidelines.	To date 74 local employers have been contacted and four JFEP applications have been submitted.	
	RDAWEP communicates with the Whyalla Chamber of Commerce on work being undertaken on a local level.		

Outcome 6: Continuous Improvement - improved operational practices to enhance RDA capacity.			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Comply with legislative, contractual and reporting requirements.	Financial reports were prepared for the auditors for 2015/2016 DSD employment and CDS projects.		
Review and refine policies, procedures, planning and reporting documents.	KPI's for the Disability and Ageing project have now been set for 2017.	All KPI's are in-line with community consultation, the work that was undertaken in 2016 and the Whyalla City Council Strategic Plan.	
Develop marketing, communications and media plans.	Some refinement was added to the EP Workforce Builder marketing plan.	This has been used in the Port Lincoln CDS application to DSD.	None yet.
	The Corporate Marketing Plan was developed to provide strategic direction.	The plan was completed in 2015/16. Annual budget allocated for implementation.	This activity is ongoing.
	RDAWEP Media Gallery upgrade.	Uploading and tagging of images.	This activity is on hold.
	A Career Development Centre (CDC) brochure for CDC promotion was developed. It will also promote Career Development Services.	Design was approved and printed.	The brochure is a high quality, professionally designed marketing tool developed for the promotion of CDS/CDC.

Outcome 6: Continuous Improvement - improved operational practices to enhance RDA capacity.			
What will you do? Activities	What did we do? Outputs	How well did we do it? Quality of outputs	Did it have an impact? Value-add of outputs
Develop marketing, communications and media plans (Cont'd).	Corporate website – rdawep.org.au	The website received 3,945 page visits in April. A decrease of 23% from March.	This is an ongoing activity because the use of the website needs to be monitored on a regular basis.
	Create and distribute content for Social Media applications in order to grow social media reach	Share the regular creation and distribution of content to meet target market needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eyre Peninsula Instagram audience grew by 4.7% to 4,305 followers. Eyre Peninsula Australia's Seafood Frontier Facebook audience grew by 1.1% to 4,474 followers. RDAWEP Facebook audience grew by 1.5% to 400. Eyrepenninsula.com increased page views by 7.2% to 9,772. Seafoodfrontier.com.au increased page views by 3.6% to 3,796. Nullarbor (digital version) decreased page views by 5.6% to 21, 787. 	This is an ongoing activity because the use of social media needs to be carefully monitored on a regular basis.
	Create and distribute content via email marketing system (MailChimp) in order to meet target market needs.	1 campaign was emailed in April. Sent to 503 subscribers. 37.9% open rate 4.1% click rate.	This is an ongoing activity because the use of email marketing campaigns needs to be monitored on a regular basis.
	The EP Brand Plan was developed to provide strategic direction. This included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and develop EP Brand program's digital footage by effectively managing its social media and email marketing digital assets. Maintain and distribute existing Eyre Peninsula branded printed collateral - e.g. The Adventure Culinary Guide and the Seafood User Guide. 	Plan was completed in 2015/16. Annual budget allocated for implementation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New content was created and distributed to meet target market needs. New content was created to promote the brand program in the monthly RDAWEP newsletter. 	The RDAWEP Regional Newsletter for April was distributed on 6 th April 2017. Sent to 2843 recipients. 32.69% open rate. 6.73% click rate.
Improve financial and IT systems.	System development and improvement is an ongoing activity.		
Implement best practice HR initiatives.	Staff contract renewals progressing per calendar setup.		
	Governance training was arranged for board members.	Training was well received by the board members present.	The training had an immediate impact with some members requesting reviews of board meeting processes.