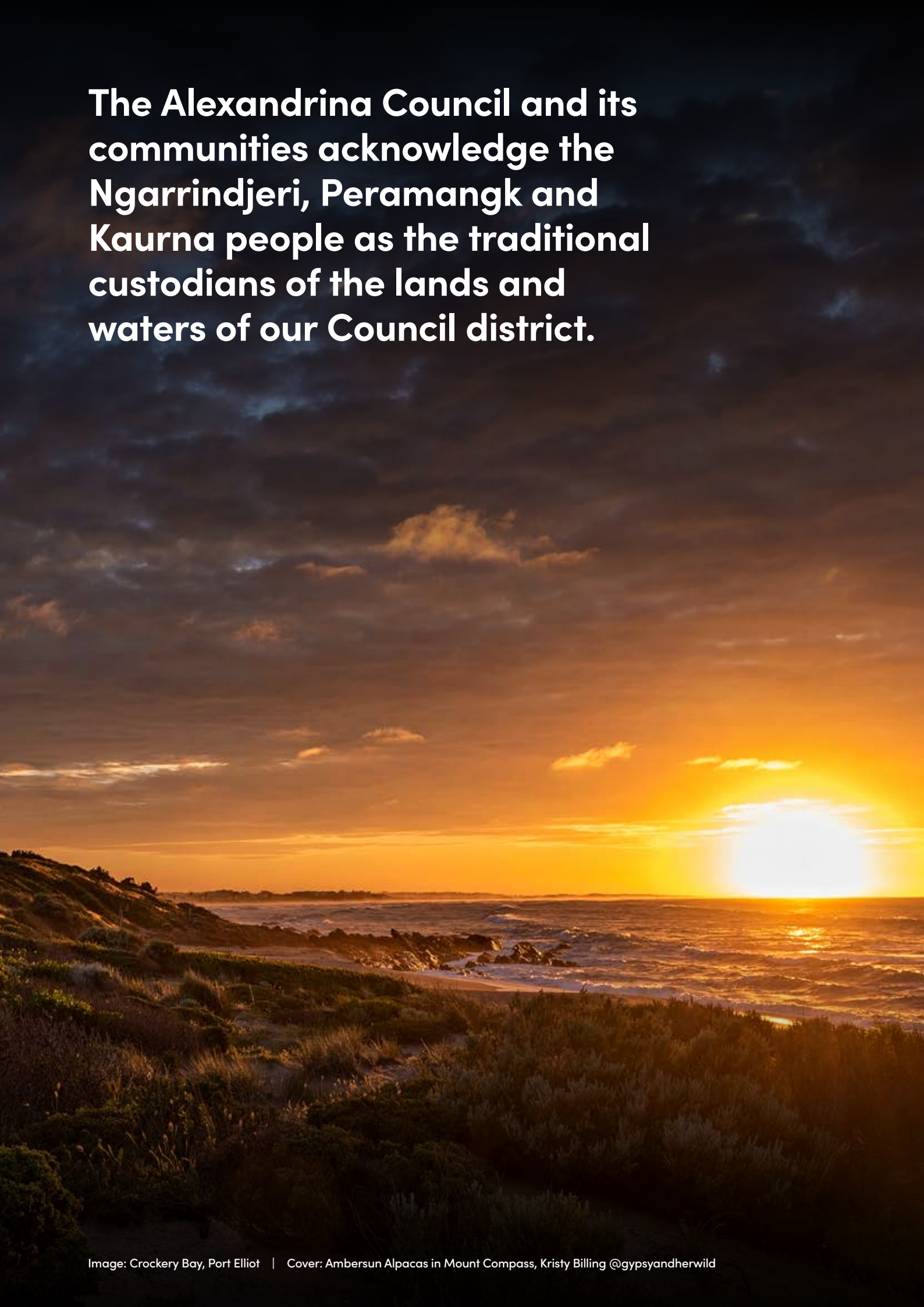
Alexandrina 2040

Liveable. Green. Connected.

Our plan to thrive

Long Term Community Vision 2020–2040



The Alexandrina Council and its communities acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri, Peramangk and Kaurna people as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters of our Council district.

Image: Crockery Bay, Port Elliot | Cover: Ambersun Alpacas in Mount Compass, Kristy Billing @gypsyandherwild

Foreword

We are delighted to share Alexandrina 2040, our community's vision for 2040. This narrative and accompanying Four Year Delivery Plan present a comprehensive vision and action plan for our residents, businesses, community organisations, partners and collaborators.

As part of the Alexandrina 2040 process, we have fully embraced the philosophy to 'think globally and act locally' and take the 'place-led, community-fed' approach. This helped us to be ambitious about the future and, importantly, to plan proactively. A 'futures thinking' mindset has helped us to raise our sights beyond the horizon; beyond the next 12 months and beyond the next term of Council, to consider the decades ahead.

Alexandrina's future will be influenced not only by today's challenges, but by major social, environmental and economic trends, such as population growth, climate change, an ageing population and rapid technological change. With everyone working together, we'll each have our part of a story in 2040 that reveals a liveable, green and ever more connected community than the Alexandrina of today.

A2040 is a call to action for Council. There is only so much we can do alone; as a local government organisation we are best placed to advocate for and support a future defined by rewarding partnerships, and proactive approaches to growth for our economy and communities.

Alexandrina is a collaborator. Over the next 20 years, we will pursue advocacy and partnerships to progress our community's 2040 vision, including seeking funding and good policy from State and Federal Governments.

Mayor Keith Parkes

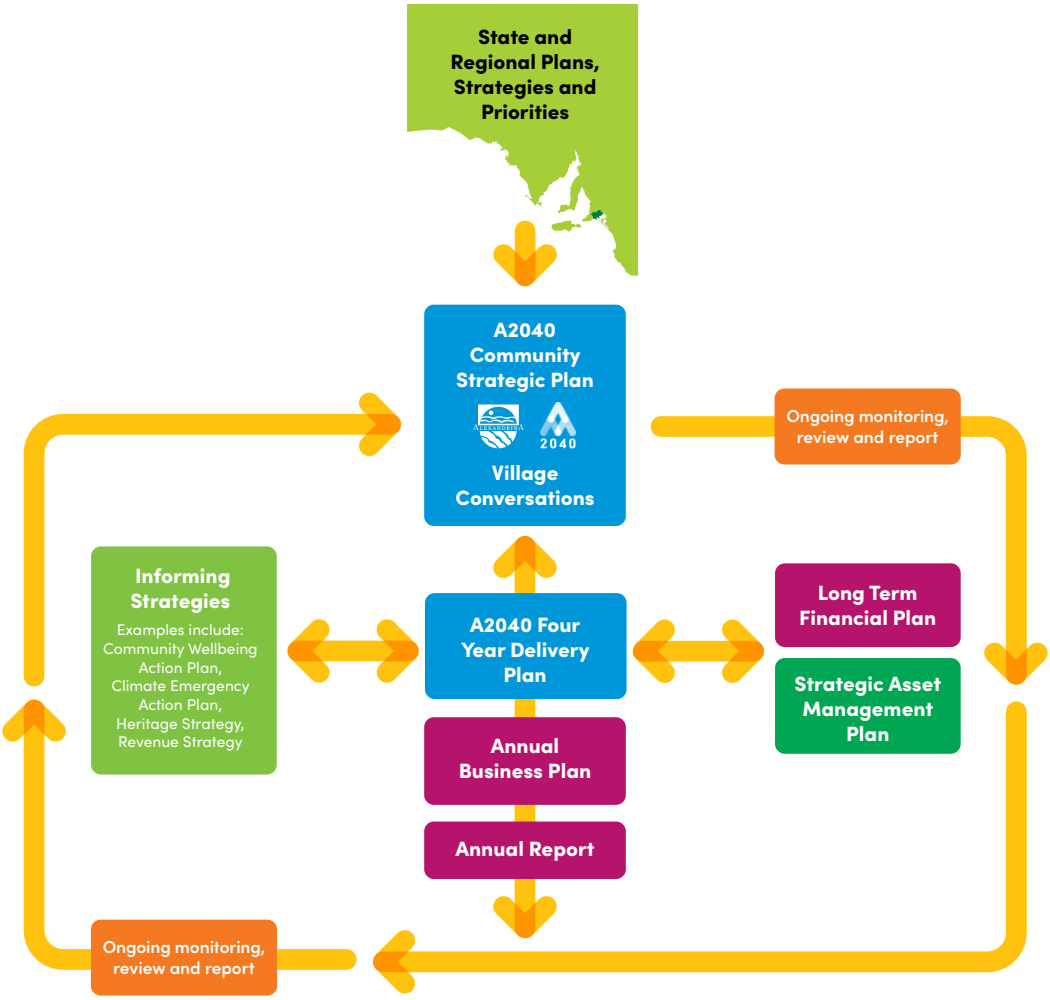
Integrated strategic management framework

Integrated strategic management planning is a continuous cycle of consultation and engagement with the community to develop the community's long-term vision; and the objectives and activities for the strategic management plans to realise the vision.

Collectively, the strategic management plans provide readers with an understanding of:

- the community's vision
- the objectives, for at least four years, for realising the community's vision – including how the objectives align with other spheres of government and how any overlapping services are shared
- the priority actions to be taken to achieve the objectives
- the ongoing financial sustainability status of Council, including estimates of the income and expenditure needed to maintain high priority expenditure programs and projects
- the measures used to assess Council's performance.

Council reports on its performance against the objectives and priority actions to the community via Annual Reports.



Strategic management plans

Strategic management plans	Role	Planning horizon
A2040 Community Strategic Plan - Vision	The community's long-term vision for Alexandrina – 'Liveable. Green. Connected.' to thrive into the future.	20 years
A2040 Community Strategic Plan - Four Year Delivery Plan	Details what Council will do over the four year period to work towards the community's long-term vision - Liveable. Green. Connected.	Four years
Strategic Asset Management Plan	Supports the delivery of A2040 Community Strategic Plan by providing long-term asset management scenario modelling about when Council will intervene to improve assets based on the condition assessments and service levels determined with the community, and details the objectives, practices and actions for asset management improvements.	10 years
Long Term Financial Plan	Supports the delivery of the A2040 Community Strategic Plan by setting the short, medium and long-term priorities, based on resourcing and funding capabilities – setting out the longer-term impact on the financial sustainability of delivering the A2040 Vision.	10 years
Annual Business Plan	Annual statement of intended programs and priority actions for the year and links to the A2040 Four Year Delivery Plan. It also links to Council's Annual Budget to the longer term planning of resource allocations for the year and establishes the basis for performance review over the year that is included in the Annual Report.	One year

Southern Surf Festival, Middleton

About this plan

This Community Vision document is one of two documents that make up Alexandrina's Community Strategic Plan, called Alexandrina 2040 Our Plan to Thrive (A2040):

1. **A2040 Our Plan to Thrive Long Term Community Vision (A2040 Vision) – this document**
   Outlines our long-term vision for Alexandrina – to be 'Liveable. Green. Connected.' to thrive into the future. It is a story developed with our community representing what we want Alexandrina to be like in 2040 and includes the objectives that Council will focus its efforts on.

2. **A2040 Our Plan to Thrive Four Year Delivery Plan (A2040 Delivery Plan)**
   Outlines what Council will do over the four years in each of the A2040 Objectives to work towards the community's long term vision of Liveable. Green. Connected.

A2040 is used by Council to guide the management of its services, assets and budgets through its Long Term Financial Plan, Strategic Asset Management Plan, and the Annual Business Plan.

Port Milang Historic Railway Museum

How this plan was prepared

A2040, the Community Strategic Plan, was first adopted in 2020 following extensive engagement with our community including face-to-face Village Conversations across our townships.

The Community Strategic Plan is legislatively required to be reviewed every four years. This A2040 Long Term Vision document was revised from a 2024 review of A2040.

The 2024 review examined:

- Alexandrina area's statistics
- Relevant local and state policy documents
- Ideas for the future from our communities during Village Conversations and other engagement activities
- Council strategies and plans
- Contributions from Council Members.

It identified topics (see following page) that were used to inform changes to this A2040 Vision document and to prepare the A2040 Delivery Plan.

The review realised that the community's vision to be 'Liveable. Green. Connected.' as identified in the original 2020 plan (A2040 Vision) was still strong and appropriate.

The 2024 review has adjusted the Objectives to which Council will focus its efforts and are aspirational statements of what Alexandrina will be like in 2040. These objectives are provided at the end of this document in the section 'Bringing the A2040 vision to life'.

Community engagement was undertaken on this draft A2040 Vision document in November 2024.

Topics that informed the 2024 revision of the A2040 Community Strategic Plan

Alignment Alignment of Council services, strategies, and assets to the A2040 Delivery Plan

Climate change Delivery of adaptation and carbon neutral approaches and supporting community and industry resilience (especially agriculture).

Corporate functions Including Council's 'enabling' corporate areas (e.g. finance, volunteer management and organisational development) in the A2040 Plan.

Economy Supporting local business, investment attraction, tourism and activation.

Financial sustainability Managing expenditure and increasing revenue.

Greening Increase greening of townships.

Inclusion and wellbeing Acknowledgement of and partnership with First Nations, community connection and wellbeing and disability access and inclusion.

Planning for growth Planning Council services and infrastructure to support our growing population, including an ageing population.

Recreation and open space Planning for sport, recreation and open space facilities including for youth.

Townships Delivery of township plans and master plans, including landscaping, environment, access and heritage considerations.

Transport Making it easier to get around including road upgrades, pedestrian and cycle networks but especially public and community transport.

Waste Improvements to Council waste management services (e.g. frequency, organics) and supporting a circular economy.

Alexandrina's story: past and present

What we call Alexandrina is a great deal more than the sum of its parts. Every town, every pocket of the region is unique. Every place and every person has a story to tell.

Farmland and coastal landscape in Alexandrina

Canoe Tree, Currency Creek

This story is told through 11 townships and the many places in between. It's in the scrub, paddocks, beaches and dunes. Our story is on the ocean winds and deep in our fertile soils. It's in, under and on the waters of the ocean; in our wetlands, streams and in the Angas, Bremer and Finniss rivers, sinuous siblings for the River Murray and the Coorong, where the waters meet.

Alexandrina 2040 – our story as a community – will be told for generations to come.

People in this region have told these stories for more than 40,000 years, back before an ice age when we were connected to what we now call Kangaroo Island. You may have heard the Ngarrindjeri tale of Murrunduri, the great River Murray, with its creation by Ngurunderi who chased Pondi, the giant cod. Ngurunderi created the Lower Murray, the Coorong and our southern coasts and islands. Mount Compass is where many ancient paths and trade routes intercept. Aboriginal people have connected here, moving from nearby Nangkita (place of Grubs in the trees) on the ancient route to Currency Creek and the Finniss, then on to Lake Alexandrina.

> We have to recognise who we are and who we have been as a nation. We should also recognise who we can be.
>
> **RAUKKAN COMMUNITY ELDER**

Our story has been told by millions of people across millennia and each day brings a fresh chorus of voices to our collected history. These stories recall a time that lives in our land and waters, one that's carved in timber, hewn in stone and forged in steel. Today, in this digital era, Alexandrina's story is shared across screens in our homes, at work and on the devices that accompany us almost everywhere.

Each one of our stories lives with the wildlife and wild places; with the animals of our farms and the beloved companions in our homes.

Our farms and vineyards have grown to bring so much from the paddock to fill the plates and glasses of neighbours and friends, old and new. Langhorne Creek's reputation as one of the world's leading wine regions continues to grow. We are close enough to major ports to export Alexandrina's sought-after produce, from both land and waters, especially to our neighbours in Asia.

We can see the enduring attraction of the inland towns of Mount Compass and Currency Creek and the charms of places like Port Elliot for families and tourists alike; the mix of historic streets and buildings, lifestyle businesses and so many things to do in one of the most walkable and creative coastal villages in South Australia. The stately buildings and curios of Strathalbyn, one of South Australia's oldest towns, remain as vital testament to our strength and character through two centuries of war, depression, drought and plagues.

Every year, we share Alexandrina with visitors from around the world, from across Australia and from just down the road. Most linger and many return to satisfy curiosity piqued by their first experience, ready for a new surprise. It's easy to welcome people back and just as easy to see why it's hard for them to say goodbye. Increasing numbers of visitors decide they're ready to make Alexandrina home for the rest of their days.

There is so much to admire about the people and places of Alexandrina. It is also true that much of what we love needs us now, more than ever before, to care for and support this region and its future generations. This is our challenge for the years ahead as we work together for the Alexandrina of 2040.

> The smell of the sea and river. The history in the present day, in the crafting of historic vessels, true to our nature.
>
> **GOOLWA LOCAL**

Vineyards, Langhorne Creek

Goolwa Beach, South Australian Tourism Commission

Realism and optimism

Our climate is changing before our eyes, with increasing degrees of ferocity. The devastating fires of late 2019 are only part of this picture. In 2020, a health pandemic has disrupted our ways of life and for many, our ways to make a living. Both crises have brought undeniable hardship that will test our resilience for many years.

Cracks have opened, exposing gaps in the way we do things, vulnerabilities in our relationships and with the way we earn, spend and save money. The crises have shown us the fragility of life, nature and notably our own physical and mental wellbeing.

For our region, the crises have also revealed our strengths, the advantages of our unique and connected communities. We've been able to see, some of us for the first time, that we have so much of the 'good life' here – local produce, nature on every doorstep, good-natured sporting rivalries, cultural experiences and businesses and community organisations with impressive spirit and ingenuity.

Here we have been able to celebrate the lifestyle and open air as we work from home with our 'knowledge economy' making the leap to digital, something epitomised by the Business Hub in Goolwa, launched in 2020.

Through difficult times, we've celebrated the courage of those keeping us safe, and shown compassion for those who have found a lifeline in our communities. Our ethos of kindness has kept us connected.

> Let's be realistic about the challenges, but optimistic about the opportunities.
>
> **MAYOR OF ALEXANDRINA**

Since 2020, we have opened our arms to our fellow South Australians, we have also opened our wallets to support local enterprises. In many ways, Alexandrina has been at its best.

In creating Alexandrina 2040, we have listened to the passionate communities, staff and leaders of the region. We've explored some exciting possibilities for the decades ahead. More than 1,800 people have had their say.

Today more than 30,300 people call Alexandrina home and our population is expected to reach up to 40,000 by 2041 with land surrounding some townships identified for growth in State Plans.

Our region is already one of the day-trip capitals of South Australia with 2.8 million visitors a year, many joining us in the warmer months. While we have natural and agricultural riches that compare to anywhere in the nation, tourists are a vital part of our future. They have also added their voices to our story.

Clayton Bay

Our Vision
Alexandrina in 2040:
Liveable. Green. Connected.

It's natural to be proud of every bit of what we call Alexandrina. We want to move forward into the future protecting what we love and embracing the best parts of change. Let's imagine we are in the Alexandrina of 2040. We are thriving because we stayed true to our aspirations to be the most liveable, green and connected community we could be.

There is plenty that is familiar. Alexandrina's townships and rural areas retain their unique identity, heritage and charm. Good planning; active spaces, including playspaces, ovals and parks; and accessible, low-emissions transport bring people together to celebrate, connect and enjoy all that Alexandrina has to offer.

Many more people are living here for our affordable lifestyle or commuting to jobs, events and community spaces within our region. This growth defined our district as diverse housing and jobs were created, including what still feels new in secondary and tertiary education, arts and culture, digital enterprise, regenerative agriculture and nature-based tourism.

We can see different faces, enterprises and influences in the Alexandrina of 2040, adding even more character and delight to our reputation for hospitality.

It's a place that's easy and enjoyable for people of all ages and abilities.

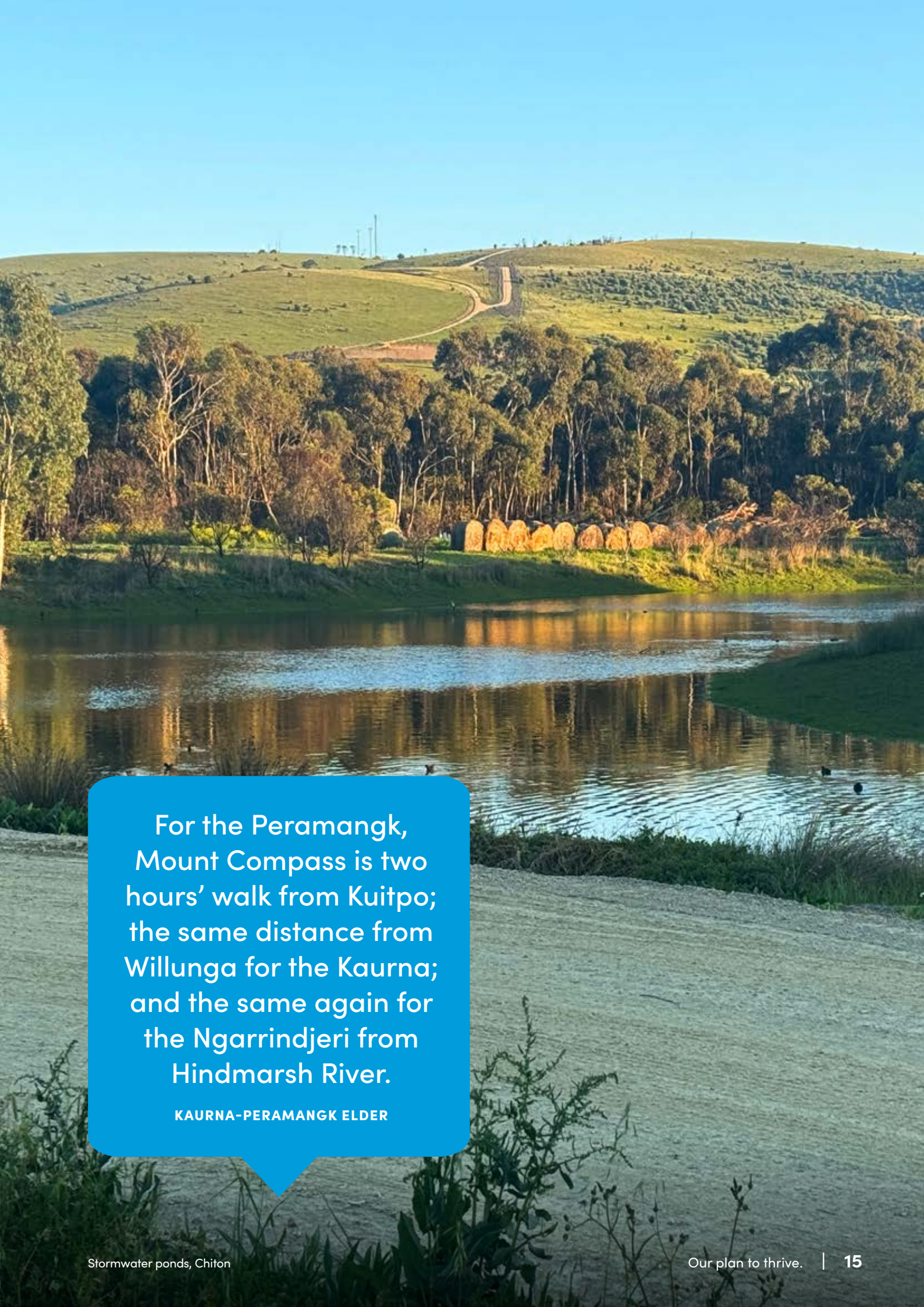
Generations of families that have shaped Alexandrina's agriculture and agribusiness continue to be vital partners in growing our regional economy. Our elder Alexandrians lead the way, especially those from our First Nations communities, benefiting from the philosophy of 'equity in partnership', as it's described by the Ngarrindjeri.

It feels like we have been able to close a time loop, linking our past to a future that feels authentic and exciting in equal measure.

Well-planned Towns and Growth

Well-planned towns and development relies on the best available social and physical infrastructure and services. It supports residents, farmers, businesses, community organisations and the many visitors central to job creation and our economic destiny.

The Strand, Port Elliot



For the Peramangk, Mount Compass is two hours' walk from Kuitpo; the same distance from Willunga for the Kaurna; and the same again for the Ngarrindjeri from Hindmarsh River.

KAURNA-PERAMANGK ELDER

Stormwater ponds, Chiton

Embracing nature and new energy

Every year since 2000 has been warmer than the hottest years last century. In Alexandrina during this time, days hotter than 35ºC increased by nearly a third, while rainfall decreased by 5%.

In 2040 it is even hotter and drier. Conditions are projected to worsen, long before they get better, with emissions heating our planet and bringing more fires, flooding, erosion, drought and storm events than ever before. In many Australian cities, the urban heat island effect is having a dramatic impact on our most vulnerable people. Fortunately, Alexandrina is one of the first local government areas in the nation to emit less carbon than we capture and store in our natural systems (not everyone believed we could be 'carbon negative'). Our strong advocacy for fair use of water in the Murray-Darling system has ensured the Murray Mouth, Coorong and lakes Alexandrina and Albert have retained their status as wetlands of international significance. These places continue to be cooling refuges for native fish, plants and the waterfowl and migratory waders that continue to attract bird lovers from all over the world.

We committed to act in 2019. Alexandrina was one of the councils to declare a Climate Emergency. We worked hard to transform our approach to power generation and use, including the energy required to support our way of life.

In 2020, most of our emissions came from electricity generation, transport, street lighting and agriculture. In the 2020s and 2030s, the acceleration in use of renewable energy, electric and hydrogen-power for cars and buses has made a difference. It's now also so natural to 'telecommute', with video conferencing the main medium of engagement for our knowledge economy. Our work to integrate cycling, walking and other forms of active transport has turned our fortunes around and had a measurable influence on the way we feel in body and mind. The leadership of the agricultural communities of Ashbourne, Woodchester, Hartley, Milang and of course Strathalbyn are often heard in conversations about the future of sustainable farming for this new century.

Olive fields, Tooperang. Photographer, Harry Vick

Strathalbyn Soldiers Memorial Gardens

Communities re-energised

In 2040, a bird's-eye view of Alexandrina now reveals three times the number of photovoltaic panels glinting in the sunlight than two decades ago. Along our coasts, waves surge above tidal power generation. We have benefited from exploring biofuel, hydrogen and waste-to-energy projects near our world-class population centres.

Renewable energy generation feeds into electricity microgrids and the national network. Virtual solar power plants and batteries at hundreds of households dramatically reduce energy costs and stabilise power infrastructure; they have even empowered residents with solar and batteries to share energy with neighbours or others in need.

Responsive energy systems connect electrified transport to charging stations. The updated fleet of Council vehicles have driven this renewal and catalysed opportunities for the shuttle buses and emission-free transport that so many people dreamt about years ago.

It's now quite literally a buzz to have scooters and e-bikes, buggies and other mobility vehicles traversing our renowned network of well-maintained trails and footpaths.

Greener towns and developments

The development and construction of low-footprint, water-sensitive dwellings, green back yards and community gardens and verges is encouraged. Now we can see a mix of housing options in our population centres that was almost non-existent in 2020. For every new development world-class stormwater and wastewater systems is plumbed in, networked to wetlands that are recreational and community gathering points. Every home is digitally connected and much more future focused than we ever imagined. The streets of every town, from Port Elliot in the west, to Langhorne Creek in the east and Woodchester in the north, benefit from shady trees and enjoy the cooling effect of parks, verges, gardens and buildings covered in greenery.

In 2040, we all acknowledge that our natural areas have been vital in our changing climate.

We took the responsibility to preserve and improve the native vegetation in our district that is a vital refuge for native animals, including numerous species that were at real risk of extinction.

Our dunes and beaches are home to so many of the creatures that delight locals and visitors young and old. They also provide us with vital protection as sea levels continue to rise. The wetlands and lakes about Clayton Bay and Milang continue to cool breezes that revive plains, valleys and parklands across the region.

We are now also more responsive to the unique weather patterns of our inland towns and places and considered this in our planning and programs, including festivals and other recreational events and competitions in places like Mount Compass and Currency Creek that also celebrate their connection to our natural world.

The circular economy goes on

In partnership with other councils on the Fleurieu, waste volumes to landfill have been dramatically reduced. We increased our recycling, continuing the improvements we saw in the early 2020s. We moved away from wasteful behaviours and our recycling now happens much closer to home. We have China and other nations to thank for this; it was their refusal to process hard-to-recycle materials in 2019 that jump-started our circular economy.

Single-use plastics have been banned in South Australia for 20 years, though we needed a local revolution in our own ways of life to phase out non-compostable plastics. Some of our villages have brought what we now call 'resource' management to a single street or premises and now proudly operate upcycling facilities and social enterprises run by local volunteers and staff. Shops in our main streets sell these products and replenish the virtuous spending cycle with in-store resource collection points.

Local governments across South Australia signed up to a 'buy it back' program for recycled products 20 years ago. This provided Alexandrina with

Birdlife, Hindmarsh Island

Ringbalin Festival, Goolwa

the chance to take the lead. Strong community support for better waste storage, processing, reuse and recycling brought people together, transforming waste. This collaborative enterprise brought industry, community organisations and local government together, transforming waste into new products, including materials for making roads, pathways, or seats; mulch and compost for farming and gardens; and even some of the waste-to-energy projects that showed such early promise.

It is hard to remember when we didn't have our blossoming network of community gardens, orchards and shared farming plots. These bustling wellbeing hubs nourish close relationships between neighbours, even as our population grows. This has improved our social interaction and vitally cut down on the transport and packaging associated with many commercially available foods, especially when it comes to fruit, vegetables and herbs (which we now also support with revolutionary approaches to sustainable packaging and transport).

I love connection to the local Indigenous people and celebration of art and community connection.

GOOLWA LOCAL

Climate and Environmental Stewardship

Climate Change is the issue of greatest concern to the people of Alexandrina. Increasingly frequent adverse events, the fragility of our ecosystems and the security of our water supplies led to our Climate Emergency declaration in 2019.

It is clear that we can go well beyond the management of waste, water and energy and extend to circular resource systems, regenerative farming, aquaculture and nature-based recreation and ecotourism.

In 20 years, what will be important to me is a walkable, liveable, vibrant and accessible environment and community. We will be responding to climate change and its effects.

GOOLWA LOCAL

Celebrating our people and places

Everyone loves the rural feel and friendliness of Alexandrina, so back in 2020 it was important we were serious about the potential impacts of growth. Being able to live, learn and work locally is important for so many in our community, regardless of age or location.

The world continues to change at such a dramatic pace, so it is also clear that we need to keep modernising. We will continue to do more to develop, promote and support local learning and business opportunities. This is a never-ending and always-rewarding process, one we recognised long enough ago to plan for change.

Planning towns, protecting nature

Population growth presented opportunities to expand our open space and infrastructure network in ways that added value to our existing communities. We listened when our communities told us how much the buildings, streets and industries of the past meant for the character of our future. We advocated to protect what matters most as our areas grew.

This builds on the legacy of Cittaslow Goolwa and other community-led initiatives to preserve and celebrate our towns and hinterlands.

We sensibly consolidated growth at our existing townships, including programs to activate underused and empty commercial and community spaces. While areas beyond the fringes of Adelaide have lost much of their best agricultural land to urban development, we safeguarded our farming land with a focus on the growing demand on food production. We enjoy and appreciate farmland and wilderness between our special towns. This is a point of difference on the Peninsula.

> Everyone's friendly. If you get hurt at the skate park, you've got someone who cares for you.
>
> **MOUNT COMPASS LOCAL**

Mount Compass Recreation Park

Opportunities for young and old

For many people, Alexandrina is a lifestyle choice. This was as true for our older locals in the 2020s, as it is for the many young adults and families who also call this region home today. We are still the Council of choice for quality places to grow older and we're finding a balance with imaginative approaches across the generations.

In 2040 there are great prospects for young people in both our townships and rural areas. We have enjoyed great improvements in recent years, thanks in large measure to investment partnerships in education and research, pathways for employment in care and social services and an expansion of festivals, events and creative initiatives. These efforts have built on the natural advantages of Alexandrina and attracted new people to our region. Young people are better off than 20 years ago, when one in six of our 16-year-olds didn't go to high school and far too many young people needed access to mental health services (much more than in metropolitan Adelaide).

Cultural shifts can take generations to realise, but the signs of this change can be seen everywhere. Our rural centres and villages are known by their given and First Nations names. Each is now more culturally and ethnically diverse than back in 2020, with much more in common with the cities and nations that many of our newer residents once called home.

Thanks to everything activated by A2040, we have met many of the community needs highlighted in the 2020s.

We enjoy better aged care and more flexible independent living opportunities supported by increased health and medical services and facilities. Our more comprehensive community transport options, and social, retail and recreation services and facilities for families have sustained the community through the many years of hard work. This is a place where our elders are at the heart of our social and economic success.

Over the 2020s and 2030s, Alexandrina presented a compelling option for tertiary education providers and research organisations. They delivered on the exciting potential to partner strategically and we have become home to centres of excellence in First Nations culture, health, wetland ecology, climate research, regenerative agriculture and ecotourism.

We also really love our high schools in Goolwa, Mount Compass and Strathalbyn, with so many graduates setting up shop across Alexandrina, often partnering with older volunteers on exciting start-ups and social enterprises.

'EFS Journey Mural' at Eastern Fleurieu R-12 School, Strathalbyn Campus. Created by artist Cedric Varcoe along with the students.

Vibrant places for lively lifestyles

As well as the extraordinary growth in employment associated with our older community, we found ways to attract younger families and meet demand for places to create and socialise together.

Youth forums certainly helped show us how to value and care for our wild and tamed natural places – the surf and turf essential to the active lifestyles that so many of us love.

Feedback 20 years ago also identified that greater intergenerational connection could arise through central community precincts and embracing a vibrant calendar of cultural, artistic and historical celebrations, sporting events and tournaments, markets and festivals.

Our traditional acknowledgment and respect for the custodians whose ancestral lands we call Alexandrina flourished through the 2020s and 30s. It's easy now to recognise the celebration of First Nations' culture and enterprise in our places, events and language. This is a source of pride for all and a talking point for visitors and neighbours alike.

In 2040, we still connect with our heritage in farming dairy and beef cattle, sheep, horses, alpacas, crops, bees, grapes and all of the associated products and our exciting partnerships in First Nations cuisine have brought so much more to this, including several native plant nurseries.

Inclusive and Thriving Community

Bringing generations and communities together, welcoming visitors into our region and embracing diversity will support our growing population, stimulate spending and attract investment. An inclusive and thriving community will be defined by events and gatherings in our villages, beaches, open and community spaces, and vibrant main streets and businesses that meet the needs of residents and visitors alike.

First Nations Smoking Ceremony, Goolwa

Going places

Over 20 years ago, anyone entering our district through the gateway township of Mount Compass, or the South Coast, Adelaide Hills or Murraylands will have understood our heavy reliance on cars and our road networks.

With the hundreds of thousands of visitors we welcome each year, it's little wonder so many in the community asked not only for well-maintained roads, but also other options for commuting, freight haulage and a far better community transport network, including shuttles and a variety of driverless vehicles. It was important that we responded to these needs.

Reliable, affordable options to get around are a basic necessity, not only to shop or go to work or school, but to ensure that everybody, regardless of physical ability, has the opportunity to get out to see other people, or perhaps, like so many tourists who visit, to get away from it all. We had only one percent of Alexandrina locals using public transport back in 2020; now 10 times that number jump on e-buses that ply familiar routes that are also a major drawcard for backpackers and other visitors.

Thanks to our passionate advocacy and work with Federal and State Governments, rail connection to Adelaide has never been busier.

The smarter ways to collect and map data about the movement of people and vehicles across the district that we adopted and applied these last 20 years intelligently informed the way we plan and maintain roads, paths and verges. The internet of things – sensors linked with the technology and skills to interpret what we detect – helped Alexandrina and other government infrastructure investments go much further, so much faster.

We have always been comfortable balancing the old with the new – wooden boats, steam-powered trains and paddle steamers, the wharfs and boardwalks of our waterways are still all special Alexandrina attractions. With imagination, we blended the past with a much more mobile future. Goolwa Airport realised its promise and the visionary runway expansion brought greater numbers of innovators and visitors here. It has also helped enormously with our exports of high-value perishable products, including wild caught and aquaculture produce.

Transport Connections

Our community needs a high-quality road, water, rail and trail network that is safe, well maintained and supportive of healthy lifestyles and environmental sustainability. Better transport connections within the region and with major centres and cities like Mount Barker and Adelaide requires focused advocacy, planning and investment.

> We need to encourage intergenerational connection and support for those that need it.
>
> **STRATHALBYN LOCAL**

Anzac Park, Milang

What we achieved together

In 2040, Alexandrina's natural places have absorbed many of the shocks and cumulative challenges of our hotter, drier climate. These systems and community-driven projects continue to support our collective commitment to sustainable living.

Our townships have retained their identity embracing their unique qualities and storytelling through grassroots innovation and placemaking. They are more accessible and when things do go wrong; things are resolved more swiftly than many of us remember.

Our collaborative efforts have led to improved social and health care services, including community, recreation, education and medical facilities. Faster, more efficient telecommunications technology has proven to be fundamental to the prosperity of the district. We celebrate excellence in intergenerational innovation and opportunity for our young people, now attracting them from Adelaide and other regional centres here and across state borders. Our design of services, technology and places for the people with the greatest need has turned out, unsurprisingly, to benefit everyone.

Our creative townships and places reward curiosity; they brim with the opportunity to learn, work and enjoy life. Local and artisan businesses thrive and the Goolwa Wharf Precinct is now the heart of Goolwa, a bustling attraction loved by locals and tourists alike. The regional economy supports our way of life because we made sure we were ready for healthy, managed growth that balanced the necessity for progress, with deep respect for our rural and First Nations heritage. Our shared determination to strive and thrive got us this far. Now as we look to 2040, this is our community's vision brought to life.

> The Cockle Train runs through my back yard. I love imagining that my future grandchildren could hear its whistle as they paddle in the shallows of Horseshoe Bay.
>
> **PORT ELLIOT LOCAL**

Port Elliot Railway Station

This liveable, green, connected place is far greater than the passage of time. It is more than the sum of its parts. It's the story of our lives. It's our story.

Bringing the A2040 vision to life

To work towards the A2040 Vision - Liveable. Green. Connected. We will focus our efforts on five themes to bring our vision to life. These themes are shown below, with an objective statement that describes what success will look like by 2040.

The A2040 Delivery Plan sets out these themes and objectives, and shows:

- our ongoing service areas
- the results we will see if we are successful
- the key strategic approaches we will take
- the detailed actions to deliver the key strategies
- the methods we will use to measure achievements and to determine if we have hit our targets

Themes	Objectives	Vision
Trusted and financially sustainable Council	Alexandrina Council is a trusted, transparent and committed organisation that listens, advocates and delivers value for our community in a financially sustainable way.	Liveable
Well-planned towns and growth	Alexandrina is a liveable region of well-planned towns and growth areas with coordinated infrastructure, services and opportunities that support our growing population, rural heritage and lifestyle.	Liveable
Climate and environmental stewardship	Alexandrina is a climate resilient community that values our natural assets, adopts and encourages new ways to reduce our environmental impact and support new circular economies	Green
Inclusive and thriving community	Alexandrina is a welcoming community and prosperous economy with places and opportunities that support the wellbeing, creativity, active participation and quality of life of all people.	Connected
Transport connections	Alexandrina is a region with accessible roads, pedestrian, cycle an public transport networks that make it easy to get around, do business, commute and explore.	Connected

How to contact us

11 Cadell Street, Goolwa
PO Box 21, Goolwa, SA, 5214
www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au
08 8555 7000
alex@alexandrina.sa.gov.au