Delivering A2040

Six-monthly Progress Report

January 2024 – June 2024

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A2040: Our Plan To Thrive

A2040 is our plan to thrive now and over the next 20 years. Across this period, the community's vision for Alexandrina to be more liveable, green and connected is addressed in plans with long-term strategic and resourcing requirements.



A2040 Documents;

The A2040 Narrative - A 'future thinking' story celebrating our 20 year vision through strategic storytelling and reflective of over 2,000 community voices

The A2040 Four Year Plan – Is our Community Strategic Plan which introduces a new approach to community engagement and consultation through annual Village Conversations and Annual Village Innovation Plans that will help guide and influence future LTFPs and AMPs

The A2040 'plan on a page' – a quick reference guide and summary.

To bring the A2040 vision to fruition, three aspirational themes have emerged from extensive consultation with our community:

Liveable Alexandrina is defined by distinctive villages, places and spaces, unique natural environments and transport networks that support active lifestyles, employment, vibrant cultures and productive enterprise.

Green Alexandrina is climate-ready, a place where nature is valued and resources are managed sustainably and creatively for a new economy Connected Alexandrina is an inclusive, friendly region with strong community spirit, where all people are empowered to achieve their potential, and inspired to get involved.

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A2040 sets out the **five action areas**, each has three supporting activities and measures for the community's aspirations to be more Liveable, Green and Connected.



Climate Response

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.



Appropriate Growth

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



Community Inclusion

Bringing generations and communities together, welcoming visitors into our region and embracing diversity will support our growing population, stimulate spending and attract investment.



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.



Environmental Innovation

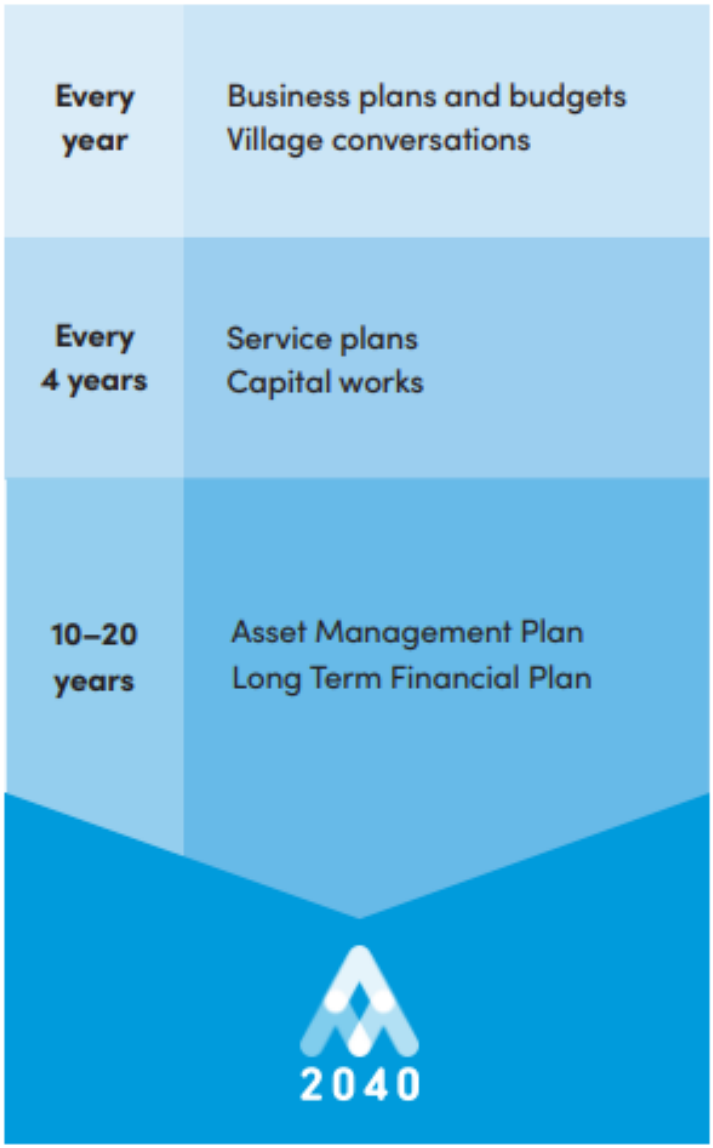
It is clear that we can go well beyond the management of waste, water and energy and extend to circular resource systems, regenerative farming, aquaculture and nature-based recreation and ecotourism.

Our Planning Framework

A2040 is a different approach to traditional local government planning and was developed using a ‘place led, community fed’ approach as a model for Council to transition to ways of working differently, while honouring existing obligations, that empower local people and communities to participate in the decisions that affect them and the places they care about.

Alexandrina Council’s Annual Business Plan and Budget demonstrates how our plans connect together to deliver the A2040 visions of a liveable, green and connected future for the Alexandrina region.

The A2040 suite of plans



Monitoring and Reporting

At the end of each financial year, Alexandrina Council produces an Annual Report which details what the Council has achieved for the community it serves.

The Annual Report has been Council's primary means of reporting back to the community on progress in achieving the aspirations of A2040, as it relates to the financial year in question.

Monitoring performance is an important factor in ensuring Alexandrina Council is delivering on the community's aspirations as expressed in A2040. The Council measures its performance and achievements through the following processes:

- Regular financial reporting to Council and Council's Audit Committee
- Annual review of the Long Term Financial Plan
- Customer Satisfaction Surveys
- Customer requests and complaints
- Regular project reporting.

The Chief Executive Officers KPI's set the goal for a regular six-monthly Strategic Plan Update Report to be implemented.

This report 'Delivering A2040 – Six-monthly Progress Report' forms the third six-monthly progress report which brings our reporting period to the end of the 2024 financial year.

Liveable

Liveable	**Climate Response**	1.1 Increase township greening and tree planning for canopy cover	On track
Service areas:	• Recreation Open Space & Reserves • Environmental Strategy & Climate Change Strategy	• Strategic Planning • Regional Development • Strategy	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Commenced Ratalang/ Bashams Beach Conservation Reserve Native Grasslands Project** - Site data collection, undertaken broad spray of area to prepare soil for seeding of native grasses (timeframe to be determined)
- **500 advanced trees planted** May/June 2024.
- **1,200** street trees watered fortnightly over the summer season.



Andrew and Lee from the Parks and Gardens Team planting seedlings in Heinecke Reserve at Goolwa Beach.

- **Developed a Trees and Vegetation** webpage with extensive information on trees and vegetation https://www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/connect/environment/natural-environment/trees-and-vegetations
- **Developed basic draft Township Greening Strategy** and held two workshops with internal stakeholders and key members of the Section 41 Climate Emerge to develop key activities.
- **Collaborated with other councils** to develop 19 videos titled “You Can’t Arb This” on the importance of trees in our community. These videos, featuring arborist interviews, addressing frequently asked questions.
- As part of **Wilding Alexandrina**, in collaboration with Second Nature Conservancy Council will be hosting a gardening project, offering discounted local indigenous plants to Alexandrina residents ($10 for 10 local plants; Date TBC in September). This is modelled on the successful ‘Mount Barker Wildlife Gardening’ project.
- **Tree Management Policy** reviewed and updated.

- Reviewing the **Infrastructure Guidelines for New Developments** including landscaping themes and green elements.
- Inclusion of **Township Greening Strategy and Action Plan** into Budget consultation (not supported by Chamber. Council Members supported the recommendation that the delivery of the plan be a priority project in the consideration of the revised A2040 Strategic Plan.)
- **Recreation, Open Space and Sport Strategy** - Analysing consultation feedback in relation to greening.
- **Friends of the Ratalang/ Bashams Beach Committee** supporting greening initiatives.
- **Old Goolwa Cemetery** – Community consultation on the proposal put forward by the not-for-profit Natural Burial Ground Trust of Australia in partnership with the Nature Foundation to establish Australia's first 'restoration' natural burial ground in a portion of unused land at the Old Goolwa Cemetery.
- **Tree Protections** - Council received and noted a report on the options available to ensure the appropriate retention of mature trees on private land contained and endorsed the current use of the Native Vegetation Overlay as the primary control for trees on private land.

Liveable	**Appropriate Growth** 	**1.2** Attract and retain younger residents to live, work and play in Alexandrina	Delays/ challenges
Service areas:	• Planning & Development • Economic Development • Community Development • Community Facilities	• Arts, Culture & Events • Project Design • Communications • Strategy	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Middleton Skate Park -** Following feedback from the 2023 Village Conversations, a petition signed by 350 residents and a deputation to Council in March 2024, Council has allocated $20,000 for a draft concept design for a skate park in Middleton. The proposed site on Mill Terrace has the potential to become a hub for skaters of all ages. Award-winning skate park designer, Convic,has been engaged to prepare the draft concept design. Residents and schools were invited to participate in two focus groups.
- **Recreation, Open Space and Sport Strategy** - Analysing consultation feedback in relation to youth and targeted sporting club feedback.
- **Mount Compass Recreation Park Half-Court & Shade Sail** - This project includes the construction of a half-court basketball facility to FIBA basketball guidelines and the installation of a playground shade sail to cover selected equipment and play zones. Onsite works are scheduled for completion in the third quarter of 2024.
- **Shade sail** through Chamber for Middleton.
- **High school education** - Senior Planner and Manager Strategic Development presented to the St Paul's College year 11 cohort on the opportunities and challenges for regional towns in comparison to urban locations.

- Irrigation upgrade to reserve in Middleton - Abbots Reserve.
- **Clayton Bay public toilet and recreation** - Council received the community engagement outcomes on the proposed location to construct a new public toilet and a basketball half court or BMX track within Clayton Bay Reserve. Based on the results, Council will now do detail design work on the toilet. Council resolved to remove or delay the BMX track.
- **School holiday program** - Investigation/ exploration into Council hosted school holiday programs that spread across townships. Council identified a gap in activities available for 12 – 17 + year olds.
- **Milang Youth Hub** – In addition to the coordinator, an employee support role has been established to collaborate with the volunteer cohort, attract new volunteers, and market the program. The Milang Youth Hub is a partnership with Reclink and MOSHCC and is partially funded by the Alcohol and Drug Foundation.
- **Outreach 'Holiday Session' held in Clayton Bay** - intent to connect recognising transport as an issue for local young people.
- **Updating wayfinding signage on Encounter Bikeway** - Bikeway review helped to identify and commenced installing wayfinding and signage to improve directional markers and wayfinding for cyclists from Goolwa to Victor Harbor. Half of this project is funded by the Department of Infrastructure and Transport State Bicycle Fund.
- **School Holidays Activity** Promotion across region
- **Council's Youth Sponsorship Program** - increased in uptake to previous years and greater diversity in age, geographical location, and types of activities.
- **Mayors' Short Story Challenge** is an annual partnership between Alexandrina Council, City of Victor Harbor, and the District Council of Yankalilla. The Challenge is about encouraging school children to let their imaginations run wild and share stories through creative writing.
- **Continuation of Alexandrina Local Drug Action Team** – Council has supported with accessing funding through LDAT and coordinating evaluation. Local schools are trialling the delivery of a new education program 'Our Futures.'
- **The Ashbourne War Memorial Centre** has new non-fixed play equipment thanks to a Council collaboration with Play Australia. Council recently partnered with Play Australia on the Let's Play Today project funded by the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing and received a $1,500 grant to trial 'Play Streets'. However, this initiative could not go ahead at the time. It was recognised through the Ashbourne Community Disaster Resilience Workshops that the town had limited public play spaces. With Play Australia's support, the grant funding was passed to the Ashbourne War Memorial Centre to purchase non-fixed play equipment for community events and made available to hall users.
- **Childcare Workforce Strategy from Early Learning** - Cross-Council collaboration with current issues in relation to childcare shortages (City of Victor Harbor and Yankalilla District Council) as a result, identified new builds of facilities for the region and industry impacts/ challenges.
- **Childcare Centre Advocacy** - Chief Executive Officer meeting with Rebekha Sharkie MP regarding childcare solutions.
- **Advocacy meeting** with TAFE, local childcare directors (community and private), Rebecca Haynes - Senior Program Officer - Childcare facilitation - Office for Early Childhood Development, Regional Development Australia Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island and Bendigo Bank (potential investors).
- **Letters of support - Handpicked Festival** – Application for the SA Tourism Commission Regional Event Fund (March)

Liveable	**Community Inclusion** 	**1.3** Design and locate community infrastructure to ensure safe, inclusive, and convenient access for communities and individuals	On track
Service areas:	• Planning & Development • Economic Development • Community Development • Strategy • Community Facilities	• Arts, Culture & Events • Project Design • Communications • Recreation, Open Space & Reserves	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Middleton Pedestrian Crossings** – Two new pedestrian crossings with median islands, kerb ramps for bicycle and wheelchair access, handrailing at each crossing, new street signage and upgraded street lighting and line marking. Jointly funded between Council and The Department for Infrastructure and Transport.
- **The Haven – Women's Information Service** received $7,000 funding from the Federal Government
- **Continuation review and update Foot Path Plan** (live document) to consider new requests, investigation of new pathways and ongoing work with developers.
- **Moore Street, Goolwa carpark** (rubble) to assist with short term overflow carpark needs.
- **Long Vehicle Parking and Bus Zone in Strathalbyn** – Community and business consultation to determine support for locations for long vehicle parking and a new bus zone in Strathalbyn.
- **Mount Compass Recreation Park Public Toilet** - Installation of a single-compartment cubicle compliant with DDA standards, building codes and current trends including accessibility, gender neutral considerations, baby change facilities and energy-efficient systems. Energy efficient items include the addition of a rainwater tank as the primary supply to the amenities and solar panels. Onsite works are programmed for the third quarter of 2024.
- **Supported the South Coast Suicide Prevention** group to deliver a community session to 60 people about developing resilience. This was made possible by a Community Wellbeing grant.
- The **Userway Accessibility Widget** on Council's website was used 293 times in 60 days and pause animations was enabled 41 times (77%) and Dyslexia/Legible fonts 29 times (8%) between April 26- June 13 2024.
- **Launch of Sandra Wehrmann and Adam Seljan Art Exhibition -** Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) action (1.6) to provide an accessible and inclusive arts programming for artists with disability.
- **Public Toilet Management Plan** – Consultation feedback presented at the February Council Meeting and was adjourned to a future Council meeting, pending further consideration at a Council Information Session.

- **Langhorne Creek Cemetery Shelter Council** has gone out to tender for the design and construction of a heritage- style shelter for the Langhorne Creek Cemetery. The shelter, intended to capture the historical significance of the cemetery and its surrounding landscape, will feature a hardwood timber structure with both ends enclosed for wind protection, bench seating and provisions for interpretive signage. This project was supported by feedback from the 2023 Village Conversations and recommended by Council's Cemetery Advisory Committee.
- **Goolwa Wharf** Structural Steel for the reassembly of the historic Wharf Shed arrived on site in late May with installation completed the first week in June. Contractors have installed all the in-ground services at the Wharf Shed and completed the footings. The concrete slab was poured in May. The timbers removed from the Wharf Shed in December 2023 been remediated and painted and are back on site. The dismantling of the wharf structure began in early 2024 and has been undertaken in stages to minimise the impacts on businesses. The first section of wharf has had all concrete, steel and timber elements constructed and finished while the second stage demolition is now complete with extra rock protection being placed in preparation for the concrete seawall to be poured.



Goolwa Wharf - photo taken June 2024

- **Disability Access and Inclusion Plan** - Completed the 2022- 23 progress report.
- **Strathalbyn Town Hall Upgrade** - The Strathalbyn Town Hall upgrade aims to create a multi-functional facility catering for a diverse range of activities and events to promote social activation and improve benefits to the community. In-progress works include the installation of air conditioning in the main auditorium, additional AV, stage lighting and controls, roof cladding replacement, a new building access system, a platform lift for stage access and the reconfiguration of front-of-house and foyer. Works are scheduled for completion in the third quarter of 2024.

- **Goolwa Beach Access** - Meeting with SA Water, SA police and Mayor to discuss the Goolwa Beach entry access and how it can be improved.
- **Horseshoe Bay Jetty** structural work completed utilising allocated Council funding and State Government contribution through the SA Jetties Renewal Program.
- **Relocation of the Milang Library Depot** to a small space at the Milang Old School House Community Centre (MOSHCC) for a pick-up (via hold) and drop off point.
- **The redeveloped Signal Point Experience Centre and Yuntulun Ku:li-war exhibition** was opened in March. This important exhibition tells the unique Indigenous and colonial history of Goolwa and the River Murray. It is a major new tourism focal point on the Wharf.



Yuntulun Ky Li-War Exhibition

Liveable	**Transport Connections**	**1.4** Advocate for a rethink of transport planning to focus on needs identification for improving accessibility, social inclusion, and wellbeing	Delays/ challenges
Service areas:	• Planning & Development • Economic Development • Community Development • Community Facilities	• Economic Development • Strategy • Strategic Planning • Regional Development	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Langhorne Creek Discovery Trail (LHCDT)** - Council received the community engagement submissions on the original concept plans, approved the amended concept plans for a grant funding submission, and endorsed the initiation of the

process to open a section of road for the purposes of establishing a new purpose-built pedestrian footbridge facilitation of the trail. Council has submitted an application for full funding of $7.1 million through a Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program Federal Government grant.

- **Livestock tunnel** - Council agreed to enter into a Land Management Agreement (LMA) with the owners of 205b Through Road, Tooperang, for the purposes of facilitating a livestock tunnel.
- **Transport webpage maintenance** - Continual review to include up to date information.
- **Partnered with Hills Community Transport** to increase transport options in Strathalbyn. A car is now located in Strathalbyn for local and inter town use.
- **Daytime Dance Party** hosted at Centenary Hall. Approximately 40 attended a community led dance party. Supported by Community Development and Venue Coordinator staff to support the disability community to be connected by providing an inclusive space and programming.
- **Transport Advocacy** to State Government Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Tom Koutsantonis, to reiterate Council's support for a Middleton Bypass Road as a priority State Government Infrastructure Project for the region. The letter would also ask for an update on the Fleurieu Freight Transport Review, confirmation that the Middleton Bypass Road was being considered as part of this review and an indicative timeline for the construction outcomes of the Fleurieu Freight Transport Review.
- **Pedestrian Crossing Brooking Street** was installed in response to community feedback.

Liveable	**Environmental Innovation**	**1.5** Commit to purchasing recycled material in our public spaces	Ongoing
Service areas:	• Planning & Development • Economic Development • Community Development • Community Facilities	• Project Design • Strategy • Strategic Planning	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Pathways** – Ongoing effort to use recycled bitumen road pavement materials wherever possible including the pavement upgrade on Frome Road.
- **Goolwa Wharf -** Contractors have installed all the in-ground services at the Wharf Shed and completed the footings. The concrete slab was poured in May. The timbers removed from the Wharf Shed in December 2023 have been remediated and painted and are back on site.
- **Nangkita Road –** 20% of road used is constructed with recycled materials.
- **Goolwa Oval Recreation Precinct celebrated** the official opening in June. The upgrades feature many sustainable features such as solar panels, rainwater storage and recycled materials.

Green

Green	**Climate Response** 	**2.1** Reduce Council greenhouse gas emissions and advocate for the uptake of renewable energy	On track
Service areas:	• Environmental Strategy & Climate Change Strategy • Assets • Fleet & Plant Management • Procurement		

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **The Clayton Bay Smart Lighting Trial** is now complete, receiving positive community feedback and recognition from other councils. The lighting sets guidelines and standards for future developments. Since the trial's inception in January 2024, there have been approximately 100kg CO2 (42%) energy savings.
- **Ongoing carbon emissions capturing** for Alexandrina Council – with annual update on Council's carbon emissions on Council's website.
- **Continuation of replacing Council fleet with electric vehicles** – EVs have zero tailpipe emissions. Replacing all passenger vehicles with EVs will result in a significant reduction in carbon emissions. Previous vehicles would emit approximately 53 tonnes (80km per day) of CO2 a year.
- **Drafting of Alexandrina Wastewater 30 year Infrastructure Master Plan** highlights key principle to be carbon zero in 2050.
- **Electric Vehicle Chargers in staff compound** – Installation of six bays.
- **EV chargers** - Concept scoping for additional four chargers in Goolwa.

Green	**Appropriate Growth** 	**2.2** Work with industry partners to identify and embed nature-based tourism experiences to secure funding to protect, conserve and enjoy our natural environment	On track
Service areas:	• Economic Development • Tourism & Events • Visitor Information Services		

January to June 2024 Progress

- **Interpretative sign has been installed at Currency Creek** showcasing the history and significance of the Currency Creek Road Bridge and the Currency Creek Railway Viaduct. Both structures are State Heritage-listed items and play a significant role in recounting South Australia's early railway history. The project utilised Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program funding.
- **SA Recreational Boating Safety Strategy** Council is sending a letter to the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, Marine Services, responding to their review of existing restricted areas and controls applying to council areas within Schedule 5 of the Harbors and Navigation Regulations 2023. The Department is currently developing an SA Recreational Boating Safety Strategy. To assist their response, Council consulted key land and water-based community stakeholders including surf lifesaving clubs, local marinas and land and water-based community clubs. Council's response covered a range of issues including stakeholder concerns about environmental impacts, community education and enforcement of four-knot speed limit zones.
- **Letter of support -** Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation's- Indigenous Rangers Program Expansion Round one (February).

Green	**Community Inclusion** 	**2.3** Encourage community participation and partnership with key stakeholders for greater involvement in sustainability issues and promote the adoption of a sustainable lifestyle	On track
Service areas:	• Environmental Strategy & Climate Change Strategy • Environmental Assets • Community Development • Economic Development • Communications		

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Collaboration with Goolwa Primary School and Way2Go Program** to upgrade the crossing and signage to relieve congestion and improve safety. The school actively implements the Way2Go ride safety program with senior primary students and sees strong bicycle use. A survey will be conducted in the second to early third term among parents to explore "walking bus" options, aiming to boost confidence in walking, cycling, or scootering to school and identify barriers that could be addressed.
- **Youth Climate Summit** 28 May 28 and 5 June: A collaboration between Alexandrina, City of Victor Harbor and Yankalilla District Council. Over 60 students attended from schools across the Fleurieu to be inspired, empowered, and informed.
- **Resilient Hills & Coasts** (RH&C) is one of eleven regional climate partnerships across the state, underpinned by a Regional Sector Agreement that formally affirms each partner's commitment to work together on climate action. The Steering Committee secured grant funding of > $110,000 to develop a new regional climate action plan. Executive managers and Council Member workshops are planned for June and August.
- **In collaboration with Second Nature Conservancy**, a series of greening projects and wildlife talks will be held, starting early September:
    - The first event will be a similar project to Mt Barker's successful Mount Barker Wildlife Gardening project, offering discounted local indigenous plants to Alexandrina residents (Date TBC but around Saturday, 7 September). Plants are grown and website is being developed as we speak. See also under KPI 1.1.
    - We are also in discussions with Cittaslow to run workshops for the community in collaboration with Alexandrina.
- **Old Goolwa Cemetery** – in collaboration between the Natural Burial Ground Trust of Australia, the Nature Foundation and the Alexandrina Council to create Australia's first genuine 'restoration' natural burial ground. Community consultation ending 1 July.



Old Goolwa Cemetery concept design

- **Partnership with Good for the Hood online education platform,** helping residents learn more about sustainable living @HOME. Admin will organise additional in-person events in Goolwa or Strathalbyn throughout the year which relate both to Environmental Action Plan and Climate Emergency Action Plan, and in collaboration with community groups. Partnership will run for next 12 months.
- **Comprehensive review of the environment and climate change websites**
    - Updates provides education / information to help the community reduce emissions (under 'What you can do' section)
    - Extensive up to date information for the community to do simple steps to reduce emissions in: Energy, Transport, Water, and Waste".
- **Application submitted to join the citizen science sustainable living program** – The Living Lightly Locally could help deliver strategic sustainability actions across the both the Climate Emergency Action Plan and the Environmental Action Plan.
- **Planning for training for managers, Exec CMs in August** – This adaptation training will help identify gaps and progress action on Council's Climate Change Policy, strategic and operational risks, and Climate Emergency Action Plan, as an all of Council approach.
- Education and behaviour change intervention programs:
    - Winter-Ready Community Workshop held in Milang to help residents in Milang and surrounding areas reduce energy bills and stay warm this winter, with a focus on navigating the REPS scheme (May).
    - Live event 'Energy Efficiency' session to be held in Goolwa library to help residents reduce energy bills, with a focus on navigating the REPS scheme (July).
- **Community Coastal Flood Emergency Plan for the Murray Estuary Settlements -** Council received the community engagement report and endorsed the Plan and supported the distribution of a fridge magnet with key messaging to residents in settlement areas.
- **Hills and Fleurieu Local Food Future project** (in collaboration with Wellbeing Team): workshop to celebrate the outcomes of the project thus far and to pitch the need for a Regional Food Plan was held in June at Kitchen Farm Pantry in Mount Barker. Various stakeholders from the community, First Nations, local and state government were invited.
- **Official launch with winter July newsletter**, with a soft launch to Cittaslow and s41 Committee 18 June 2024 to onboard members and help promote to community, to join the platform to share with community and where possible, attend live events throughout the year on various topics.
- **Continuing investigations into potential for a community renewables program** (bulk buy solar, battery, potential for a virtual power plant). Next step will require a business case to be put forward to Council.
- **Nature Festival** – Council are currently working on several events that Alexandrina will be hosting in collaboration with partners as part of the 2024 Nature Festival in October.

Green	**Transport Connections** 	**2.4** Explore opportunities to integrate eco-friendly and sustainable materials into the procurement process and practices to road management	Ongoing
Service areas:	• Environmental Strategy & Climate Change Strategy • Procurement • Assets		

January to June Progress 2024:

- **Current request for tender documents contains** a standard clause to outline use of recycled materials. Council used an industry template and applied variations to align with strategic documents.
- **LGA Procurement VendorPanel update** - Council uses procurement platform, VendorPanel for tender processes. Suppliers are now required to provide evidence of 'commitment to environmental sustainability', as well as ethical and recycled content. Council now have this criteria visible to help inform the decision making process.

Green	**Environmental Innovation** 	**2.5** Contribute to the development of a long-term approach to waste management on the Fleurieu Peninsula	On track
Service areas:	• Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority • Infrastructure • Sustainable Resources		

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Commenced administration review of Kerbside Collection Policy** and commenced development of a new Public Place Waste Management Strategy.
- **Household Waste Education community workshop in Mount Compass** in collaboration with Cr Coomans and Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority.
- **Housing Support Program (Federal Government) grant funding application** prepared by the Alexandrian Water Team for funding help with an Alexandrina Council Wastewater Master Plan.
- **Community Waste Management Scheme (CWMS State Conference)** - Sustainable Resources presented as a panellist.
- **Designs complete for the increased storage in the Milang CWMS scheme** that will allow for more optimised reuse of recycled water.
- **Recycled water** - Design underway for sustainable/ beneficial use of recycled water
- **Purchase of 1 Berry Road Mount Compass** for CWMS purposes

- **Ozwater'24 Conference Southern Hemisphere** – CWMS team attendance.
- **Public Waste Council Member** workshop May 2024 focusing on long term plan for public waste, co-facilitated with Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority.
- **Public Place Waste Management Plan** - Initiated the development of a draft plan to target high-use areas and establish criteria for bin locations.
- **Port Elliot Wetland concepts** - Council is reviewing two potential wetland concepts with associated stormwater infrastructure and landscaping at Crockery Creek and Waterport Reserve Port Elliot. These projects are based on previous stormwater management plans, coastal adaptation studies, and the master plan for Ratalang Reserve Port Elliot.

Connected

Connected	**Climate Response** 	**3.1** Support prosperity and wellbeing in Alexandrina by building the resilience of our communities, the economy and the environment to a variable and changing climate	On track
Service areas:	• Community Development • Economic Development • Environmental Strategy & Climate Change Strategy		

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Milang Recycling Centre** - Council granted the Milang Environmental Centre Incorporated a new 10 (5 + 5) year ground lease over a portion of Section 97 Weeroona Drive, Milang, for a community recycling centre.
- **Community engagement and consultation** on the Coastal Community Flood Emergency Plan for the Murray Estuary (Goolwa and Mundoo Channels communities) on how to be prepared for increased coastal flooding.
- **Ashbourne Stormwater Mitigation Project -** extensive flood modelling, proposed solutions identified and presented to community in May 2024. Positive and ongoing engagement from community especially landholders that may have to provide property support. If this project is implemented, it will protect Ashbourne residents in (1% AEP ALP (in 100 year) flood events.



Ashbourne Community Meeting held May 2025

- **Middleton Flood Study | Flood Mitigation Report** – Presented to community in March.
- **Fleurieu Youth Climate Summit** in partnership with City of Victor Harbor (facilitation) and supported financially and in-kind with Yankalilla.
- **Letter of support -** SA Coastal Councils Alliance – Disaster Ready Fund (March)

Connected	**Appropriate Growth**	**3.2** Partner with community-led Village Innovation Plans to identify and enhance sustainable social, economic, and environmental outcomes for Alexandrina	Delays/ Challenges
Service areas:	• Strategy • Communications • Environmental Strategy & Climate Change Strategy		

January to June 2024 Progress:

- Council received the **2023 Village Conversations Engagement Summary** and allocated the Village Innovations Plans $250,000 capital budget from the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan and Budget to three projects - Langhorne Creek Cemetery shelter and upgrades ($75,000); Mount Compass Recreation Park half-court basketball court ($70,000) and playground shade sail ($70,000); and a Middleton Skatepark Concept Design ($20,000).
- Procurement for scoping and design completed for Community Strategic Plan and Village Innovation Plans.

Connected	**Community Inclusion** 	**3.3** Leverage Business Alexandrina to increase opportunities to co-design innovative solutions for industry	On track
Service areas:	• Economic Development • Strategic Planning		

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **The Alexandrina Sustainable Agricultural Round Table**, entered its second year in FY24, marking a significant period of progress. ASART explored many prominent issues impacting agriculture and has been crucial in keeping Council informed. In collaboration with Council, produced the Rural Living Handbook.
- **Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Research Centre –** Rebekha Sharkie, Member of Mayo, officially opened the CLLMM Research Centre, on the top floor of the Goolwa Aquatic Building (February). Council played a pivotal role in connecting with the Goyder Institute, securing property lease and support via the Business Hub.
- **The Goolwa Wharf Precinct Activation campaign** is transforming the historic river port into a premier visitor destination with eateries, boutique accommodation, galleries, and unique tourism experiences. Having secured three tenancies in Stage 1 of the activation campaign, Stage 2 is currently seeking to attract a premier hospitality tenant for The Wharf Shed and develop the historic Harbour Master's Residence into accommodation.
- **The Tour Down Under** spun into spectacular Port Eliot for the first time this year, highlighting Alexandrina on the global stage. Passing through six of our townships, the economic focus was on building 'brand Alexandrina', engaging local businesses, and showing off our vibrant community.
- **The 'Embrace the Off-peak' winter campaign** in partnership with Fleurieu Peninsula Tourism, is currently underway, empowering visitors to discover the hidden wonders of the region during the off-peak.
- **Business Initiatives Grants** were awarded by Council to: Clayton Bay Riverside Holiday Park, Peninsula Providore Farm Pty Ltd, Hey Baker Middleton, Metal & Stone Jewellers, Mobile Dietitian, Pelican Retreats, Carriage of Occasion.
- The **first event hosted at the reopened Signal Point Experience Centre** in Goolwa was a business networking and information session for First Nations enterprises across the region. This event was held in May and was a partnership event with The Circle First Nations Entrepreneur Hub, Alexandrina Council, Adelaide Hills Council, and the District Council of Mount Barker, with support from Fleurieu Peninsula Tourism and the State and Federal Governments.
- **Consistent local business-related information and opportunities** provided through the Business Alexandrina Facebook page and newsletter including grants and development programs.
- **Currency Creek business support** - Business Alexandrina and Fleurieu Peninsula Tourism played a pivotal role in Home of Plenty's transformation (local cellar door

and venue). This collaboration supported a successful application for the South Australian Tourism Commission's Tourism Industry Development Fund, resulting in an impressive $126,778 grant. This funding facilitated the successful redevelopment of an old woolshed into Home of Plenty's lively cellar door.



Left to Right: Natalie Shaw, Dylan Beach, Lily Hoffman, Phil Shaw, Shannon Thomas, Mayor Keith Parkes, Tracey Parkes, Daria Twist, Ben Shaw, Tom Shaw, Lisa O'Donoghue - Economic Development Manager

Connected	**Transport Connections**	**3.4** Advocate for multiple modes of public transport that connect communities to Adelaide and across our region	Delays/ challenges
Service areas:	• Strategy • Governance • Communications • Community Development		

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Hills Community Transport** have signed a contract with the State Government to address the long standing Community Passenger Network (CPN) gap in service delivery that Alexandrina Council staff have been advocating for since 2020. Extra funding will be provided for services in the townships of: Ashbourne, Clayton Bay, Milang, Langhorne Creek, Finniss and Woodchester.
- **Community Transport Services report** presented at the 19 March 2024 Council Meeting to inform budget considerations.
- **Southern Communities Transport Scheme Advisory Committee** - Council Members have directed that the minutes of the Southern Communities Transport Scheme Advisory Committee be received and noted. This is a Section 41 Committee

of the City of Victor Harbor. Alexandrina Council is a funding partner and member. The Committee was established to assist in addressing the needs of transport-disadvantaged people by supporting a regional approach.

- **Cross-council collaboration with City of Victor Harbor** regarding a joint workshop on public transport across the Fleurieu to consider issues such as existing services, the status of funding for regional public transport, the pros and cons of becoming part of the metropolitan public transport network and the provision of private ride-share operations on the Fleurieu.

Connected	**Environmental Innovation**	**3.5** Support local industry to connect, explore and pilot new initiatives	On track
Service areas:	• Economic Development • Infrastructure	• Governance • Community Development	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Partnered with Hills Community Transport** to increase transport options in Strathalbyn. A car is now located in Strathalbyn for local and inter town use.
- **New Lions Book Shed** Colorbond construction including concrete floor Lions Book Shed, fit out kitchen, toilet & office space.
- **Storied Wisdom and Passion project (History Month)**– A living history project, 'Storied Wisdom and Passion' consists of photographic portraits and an exciting montage of monologues from everyday people.
    - 48 people participated across a range of ages and locations. ‘Our Stories’ webpage had 336 individual visitors during the month May.



Participant of the 'Storied Wisdom and Passion' project, Christy Dellaney

- **Disability Inclusion Training –** 40 staff participated in disability inclusion training.

- **Partnership with the Goolwa Community Centre** to apply for $350K+ over two years through the Strong and Resilient Communities Grant to deliver a youth focussed program of workshops, activities and events that build confidence, connections, health and wellbeing, skills and networks for young people aged 12-18years. The program would be based in Goolwa with some outreach activities occurring in Hindmarsh Island, Middleton, and Port Elliot. The application was shaped with views of students from Goolwa Secondary College.
- **Hosted State Heritage Grant workshop** to clarify the grant submission process.
- **Old Goolwa Cemetery** – partnership with Natural Burial Ground Trust of Australia, the Nature Foundation to create Australia's first genuine 'restoration' natural burial ground.

Enabled

Enabled Governance	**6.1** Enhance organisation capability through innovative practices, regional and community partnerships	On track
Service areas:	• Customer Service • Library Service • Subsidiary Reporting • Governance • Business Solutions • Infrastructure	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Fleurieu Regional Aquatic Centre review** – Council hosted a joint workshop with City of Victor Harbor (March)
- **Ashbourne Cemetery** - Council Members resolved to invite the Natural Burial Trust of Australia and the Nature Foundation to scope the Ashbourne Cemetery for establishment of a restoration natural burial ground.
- **Oscar W Lease** – As Friends of the Oscar W (FOW) are now an Incorporated Body, lease negotiations commenced in late 2023 to transition the FOW from a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) arrangement with Council to a leasing arrangement. For the purposes of best practice in legal and risk management, having leases in place provides greater security for all parties on the management of the PS Oscar W, while providing the FOW with clarity and autonomy in managing the Vessel and their holistic business operations with more independence than is offered under an MOU.
- **Accessible documents training -** Coordinated the Grant funds received from Office for Ageing Well (2022) to enable up to 20 staff to be trained in Creating Accessible documents later in 2024.
- **Positive Ageing Taskforces** (Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu) - Ongoing partnership and engagement.

- **Invited to contribute to the Wellbeing SA resource guides** to highlight Alexandrina Council's commitment to First Nations' wellbeing and give other councils ideas of how to do the same.
- **NAIDOC Week:**
    - Small grants to several local schools to support their initiatives to celebrate NAIDOC.
    - Grant funding and support to the MIPAAC organisation to run the annual NAIDOC events.

Enabled Governance	**6.2** Ethical and efficient management of resources. Improve planning and financial performance through regular review, alignment with strategic goals and budgets, and efficient communication and reporting	On track
Service areas:	• Finance • Subsidiary Reporting • Procurement • Strategy • Communications • Governance • Human Resources • Business Solution • Information Services	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Asset Team**
    - Development of local inspection processes with industry equipment to conduct inspections in-house including Level 1 bridge and culvert inspections.
    - Using new tools for project management and team task allocation.
    - Conducting lighting audits in-house.
- **ECOSA review** – Council is participating in tranche three of the Essential Services Commission of SA (ESCOSA)'s Local Government Advice Scheme. This initiative will provide us with independent, risk-based advice to support our long-term financial and investment decisions, benefiting our ratepayers.
- **Service Reviews –** Commenced service reviews for Centenary Hall and Strathalbyn Town Hall.
- **Implementation of Modern Workplace** (continued)
- **Draft Public Toilet Management Plan -** To provide a strategic approach to the provision of public toilet facilities that meet the need of the community.
- **Development of the draft Recreations, Open-space, and Sports Strategy** – To provide a strategic approach to meet the needs of the community. Survey sent to the region's sporting clubs to provide further information to begin to inform this strategy.
- **Community consultation and records management –** Review of internal processes to identify efficiencies.
- **Council Funding Review -** Proposed 2024/25 Grants and Contributions Programs structure endorsed by Council. The recent Funding Review activities included evaluating the ongoing relevance of Council's funding programs, assessing whether they meet current community needs and expectations, and identifying potential process and policy changes or improvements.
- **Grant submissions:**

    - Housing support Program Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts – Strathalbyn Town and Surrounds
    - Housing support Program Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts - South Coast Growth Strategy
    - Housing support Program Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts – Alexandrina Council Wastewater Masterplan
    - Regional Precincts and Partnerships - Langhorne Creek Discovery Trail
    - Heritage Code amendment Grant Funding - Milang Code Amendment (retrospective) and Port Elliot Code Amendment (upcoming)
    - Tourism Commission - SA Wooden Boat Festival.
- **Audit & Risk Committee -** Meetings held, recommendations received.
- **Delivering A2040 - 6 Monthly Progress Report**, received by Council.
- **Cemetery records -** Migrating cemetery to new corporate systems to enable future digitisation of cemetery records.
- **Updating asbestos register** for Council owned buildings (in progress).
- **Building compliance audit** Building compliance audit underway to ensure buildings meet current standards (in progress).
- **Council Meeting Notice of Motions and Questions with Notice** now include the officer time spent on the QWN.
- **Budget Roadshow events** - Reduced events from six to three and aligned with other events where possible to reduce labour costs.



South Ward Budget Roadshow held in the Goolwa Chambers in May 2024

- **Sustainable Resources (CWMS):**
    - Preparation for upcoming Asset Management Plan review
    - Review of asset conditioning and optimising asset investment
- **Review and update of the draft Revenue Strategy** to reflect 24/25 changes.
- **Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority (FRWA) Merger Proposal** - Council Members have asked that FRWA and the Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority be approached to consider an evaluation of a potential merger. The evaluation would involve a cost-benefit analysis, impact on local services, flexibility, and risk

management as well as the potential for innovation and improvements in leading practice and rubbish management.

- **Continued collaboration and capacity building** with community groups Cittaslow and Second Nature Conservancy, to support and educate environmental & climate change education talks.
- **Continue to be a vital partner of the Resilient Hills & Coasts Partnership** - Collaborative, cross-sector partnership between councils, Landscape Boards, Regional Development Australia and the South Australian Government, working to strengthen the resilience of our communities, economies and natural and built environments to a changing climate.
- **Participation in the Local Government Management Challenge** – Council supported the participation of team in the annual Management Challenge, a simulation-based team building, learning and networking program using real local government themes, the types of issues that a senior management team in a council would most likely face.
- **Remote office** as a retention tool and staff going to Adelaide for meetings or host meetings or reduces travel times for staff so they can be more efficient.
- **Enterprise Bargaining Agreement –** Drafting and review the drafted Alexandrina Council SA Municipal Salaried Officers Agreement 2024 through the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement negotiations process.
- **Employee Recognition –** Delivered second round of staff acknowledgements through the 'Rewards and Recognition Program'. The intention of the REFIT Awards program is based around individual recognition that directly align with one (or more) of our Council Values (Respect, Empowered, Fun, Impact, Teamwork).
- **Corporate Risk Register –** Preparation to move Council's risk register to an automated governance and risk software platform, creating efficiencies for staff who manage Council's Delegations.
- **Emergency Management Portal –** Introduced in early 2024, the internal site for management of all things emergency was updated to provide efficiencies in searching and accessing current data.
- **Corporate System Implementation:**
    - Plant and fleet transition
    - New accounts payable system
    - Work Orders Module
- **Parks & Gardens Tipper Truck** - replaced a small ute with a larger truck to increase efficiency and effectiveness in mulching and streetscape maintenance.

Enabled Governance	**6.3** Enhance trust and accountability through open transparent leadership. Engage, inform and involve the community in decision making and communication.	On track
Service areas:	• Governance • Office of CEO • Community Engagement • Communications	

January to June 2024 Progress:

- **Annual Business Plan and Budget 2024/25 Consultation**
    - Budget Roadshow attendance and responses
    - Streamlined Budget consultation questions.
- **Section 41 Committees, Advisory Groups, Panels and Subsidiary Boards** (continuation)
- **Council Meeting held in Strathalbyn** - Council held its May Ordinary Council Meeting in Strathalbyn to mark the town's 185th anniversary of European settlement. More than 60 people from across the district attended, including residents from Langhorne Creek and Woodchester.
- **The 2024 Alexandrina Council Heritage Awards** were held at the newly restored and re-opened Milang Butter Factory on Thursday 23 May.
- **Clayton Bay Smart Lighting Trial** - working closely with community throughout the two-stage process.
- **Ashbourne Flood Mitigation Project** – Ongoing community engagement with the local community involved in process of creating workable and effective solutions.
- **Strathalbyn Business Community** engaged on parking challenges prior to wider community consultation for locations for long vehicle parking and a new bus stop in Strathalbyn.
- **Council's Environment web pages** - Comprehensive review and updates of the environment and climate change websites:
    - Webpage developed to provide education / information to help the community reduce emissions.
    - Regular written update of Environmental Strategy and Climate Change actions via Section 41 Committee meetings.
- **Middleton Flood Event Updates** – Utilising the 'news feed' tool on Council's My Say project page to provide updates.
- **Community Engagement Charter** - Council endorsed a submission letter to the State Planning Commission outlining concerns about their proposed streamlined process for 'Complying' Code Amendments as part of proposed changes to the Community Engagement Charter.
- **Invited to submit Alexandrina Council's Better Together project** (Community Wellbeing Action Plan 2022-2026) to feature as a case study in one of the Wellbeing SA resource guides: Inclusive and Connected Communities.
- **Alexandrina Alive –** Production of Winter 2024 newsletter and Annual Business Plan 2024/25 and Budget summary for distribution in July.
- **Blue Green Algae in Lake Alexandrina –** Frequent monitoring of SA Water Quality Alerts and updates to the community via social media, distribution of warning signs in key affected areas and inclusion in My Say e-newsletters.
- **Review of Rates website site pages -** Information and design has been updated to be more user friendly. Now including instructional videos to sign up for FlexiPay and rate enquiry frequently asked questions.