

12. REPORTS**12.1 REPORT TITLE: UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MINISTERIAL DPA****DATE OF MEETING: 21 NOVEMBER 2011****FILE NUMBER: 48/030/064****Strategic Plan Ref:**

Goal Area 4 – Human Settlements and Transport

Purpose:

To provide an update on the implementation of the Ministerial DPA.

Summary – Key Issues:

- Considerable effort is occurring to identify opportunities for community benefit.
- Investment in the planning phase is necessary to achieve collaboration across different land ownerships, and enhance the ability of council to seek and win grant funding for physical works.

Recommendation:

That Council note the update on the implementation of the Ministerial DPA.

Background:

This item provides an update post the most recent agenda item considered at the council meeting held on 7 November 2011.

Discussion:

1. Council's objective remains to achieve the best outcome for the community.
2. This requires collaboration with key stakeholders like the State Government and developers.
3. Discussions are occurring with various developers as part of the Structure Plan and Master Planning processes.
4. A meeting (requested by council) with Mr Rod Hook, Chief Executive of the new Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure is scheduled to occur on Tuesday 22 November 2011.

Revised Draft Structure Plan for Mont Barker, Littlehampton and Nairne

5. Following a series of discussions a letter has been forwarded to the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure seeking formal confirmation of support for the direction and form of the revised draft Structure Plan. The letter seeks a formal response as soon as possible.
6. The Council's Strategic Planning and Development Policy Committee (SPDPC) has carriage of this initiative and considered an update at its meeting on 14 November 2011.
7. The immediate objective is to have a revised draft Structure Plan endorsed at the SPDPC meeting on 12 December 2011 and then forwarded to the State Government.
8. Subsequently the council's objective is to have the Structure Plan incorporated into the State Planning Strategy.

Master Planning

9. Liaison is occurring with developers to seek to identify and realise opportunities for strategic sites.
10. Opportunities include stormwater management, linear trail linkages, public open space and community facilities including recreation and sporting needs.
11. Master Plans will not be statutory but will open up opportunities for council to seek grant funds from the Federal and State Governments and other entities like the South Australian Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board.
12. Work on the preparation of the Nairne Township Master Plan is progressing with an update scheduled to be considered at the SPDPC meeting on 12 December.

Transport Infrastructure

13. A consultant has been retained by council to identify transport infrastructure needs in the area from Flaxley Road to Adelaide Road including Bollen Road, Hawthorn Road and Dumas Street.
14. Extension of the proposed connector road and other options are being examined.
15. Council understands that the State Government hopes to have formal documentation with developers in the consortium executed next month. Information on the proposed governance and procurement arrangements is still awaited from the State

Government. This is one of the matters intended for discussion with Mr Hook.

16. In the interim, council is continuing to advocate to the State Government for improved public transport infrastructure and services. Liaison is also occurring with the current contractor Southlink.

Water Infrastructure

17. The SA Water expressions of interest process for the augmentation of the potable water supply has closed with 5 registrations received.
18. The SA Water expressions of interest process for wastewater services has been extended from 16 November and will now close on 24 November.
19. A consultant commissioned by council is currently examining the forecast demand on the council's existing wastewater treatment plant in Mount Barker and the capacity of the plant if a planned further upgrade is undertaken to assist in identifying what role the plant could play.

Strategic Plans

20. Work has commenced on revising the Council's Strategic Plan given the current plan was prepared pre the Ministerial DPA.
21. This will include work on Economic Sustainability and employment generation in the region that has been facilitated by Mr Stephen Hains.
22. In turn, revision will also need to occur to other Strategic Management Plans of council such as Financial and Asset Management Plans.

Grant Funding

23. Application has made to secure State Government grant funding for revised concept plans to be prepared for the council land on Bald Hills Road (ex Stephenson). The outcome is not likely to be known until January 2012.
24. Preparation work has commenced for council to make application to the Federal Government next month to undertake stormwater management works (including wetlands establishment) on parcels of land that include the council land on Bald Hills Road.

Community Engagement:

Informing only	Substantial information is available on the council website.
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Policy:

Not applicable to this item.

Budget:

Specific operating budget provision in 2011/12 for directly related Ministerial DPA initiatives is \$180,000.

This provides capacity to engage specialist expertise in areas like stormwater modelling and wastewater.

Much of the expenditure is directed to identifying and pursuing strategic opportunities including through making application for grant funding to implement on the ground works.

Statutory/Legal:

Not applicable to this item.

Staff Resource Requirements:

Significant resources continue to be directed to these opportunities.

Flexibility has been retained through the use of some contractors rather than seek to recruit additional staffing resources.

Environmental:

A range of environmental objectives and opportunities are being pursued by council.

Social:

A range of social objectives are being pursued.

Risk Assessment:

A range of risks exist, particularly where there are processes outside of the control of council such as the transport infrastructure arrangements.

Asset Management:

Council's asset base will increase dramatically with gifted assets from developers and expenditure on new capital.

This will lead to a significant increase in annual depreciation, maintenance and operating expenditure.

Conclusion:

Collaboration with council playing a leadership role is required to maximise the short and long term community benefit opportunities.

Key Contact

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Attachments

Nil