

Wednesday, 24 January 2007

### **STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Premier Mike Rann has today released an update of South Australia's Strategic Plan with a renewed focus on health, the environment, education and building a competitive economy.

The updated plan takes the number of targets to 98, up from the 84 in the first edition of the Plan released nearly three years ago.

The changes to the plan have come about through a vigorous and unprecedented process of community consultation led by the plan update team and involving thousands of people across the state.

That followed an objective assessment by an independent and expert audit committee, which assessed the state progress against the targets of the original plan.

"I am proud that the independent Audit Committee found that, just two years into a ten-year plan, we as a state had already either achieved, or were on track to achieve, more than 50 percent of the targets.

"This was a terrific result, that should encourage us all to work harder still on the areas in which we need to improve.

"We were never going to reach every target in the first two years of a ten-year plan. There would have been nothing more cynical than to have set the bar too low simply to be able to congratulate ourselves when we achieved easy targets.

"When I launched the plan in March 2004, I said I wanted it to be a goad to action for all South Australians. I wanted it to be a plan for everyone – for business, for the community, and for government – not a plan for government alone.

"And I said the plan must be a dynamic, living document. A plan that is about achieving change must itself be open to change when circumstances alter.

"And so this update differs in some respects from the original version.

"We have changed the plan to take account of the views and priorities of the thousands of South Australians we spoke with across the state during the work of the update team.

"The update team and the audit committee both wanted us to introduce some new targets, replace others, and to sharpen the focus of others.

"We have also updated the plan because, in many areas, we have already achieved the target originally laid down, and can therefore address new and greater challenges.

"It is important that we keep moving and maintain the momentum – not rest on our laurels.

“To ensure consistency, the timeframe for nearly all targets has been set at 2014.

“Many targets have been strengthened and, in a very few cases, others have been amended to reflect changed circumstances or knowledge gained over the first two years of the plan.

“The plan gives all South Australians a positive focus on the future.

“It asks: *‘Where are we now, where do we want to be, and what do we have to do to get there?’*

“I thank all those South Australians, from all parts of the state and from all walks of life, who had their say on our shared future by taking part in the discussions on this update of South Australia’s Strategic Plan.

“I also want to particularly thank members of the Update team and the Audit committee for their work.

“The goal for all of us now is to use the plan to make South Australia an even better state.”

“We will soon be appointing a Community Engagement Board to ensure that the community continues to have its say in the implementation of the Strategic Plan.”

Features of this updated version of the plan include:

## **GROWING PROSPERITY**

**Competitive business climate** – a renewed commitment to maintain Adelaide’s rating as the least costly place to set up and do business in Australia and continue to improve our position internationally.

**Jobs** - a renewed commitment to better the Australian average employment growth rate by 2014.

**Defence** - increase defence industry employment from 16,000 to 28,000 by 2013, and to double the defence industry contribution to our economy to \$2 billion by 2013.

**Minerals exploration** – a more ambitious target for exploration expenditure in South Australia to be maintained in excess of \$100 million per annum until 2010. And we’ve decided that the original \$4 billion target for mining and processing by 2020 should be made more ambitious by bringing it forward by six years to 2014.

## **IMPROVING WELLBEING**

**Smoking** - a renewed and stronger commitment reduce the percentage of young cigarette smokers by 10 percentage points between 2004 and 2014.

**Healthy weight** - a renewed and stronger commitment to increase the proportion of South Australians 18 and over with healthy weight by 10 percentage points by 2014.

**Statewide crime rates** – a renewed commitment to reduce victim reported crime by 12 per cent by 2014.

**Road safety** – a renewed commitment to reduce the number of fatalities, (to less than 90 a year by 2010) and a new target to reduce serious injuries (to less than 1000 per year by 2010).

**Work-Life Balance** – a new target to improve the quality of life of all South Australians through maintenance of a healthy work-life balance.

## **ATTAINING SUSTAINABILITY**

**Soil protection** – a new target to achieve a 20 per cent increase in South Australia’s agricultural cropping land that is adequately protected from erosion.

**Greenhouse gas emissions reduction** – a renewed commitment to achieve the Kyoto target by limiting the state’s greenhouse gas emissions to 108 per cent of 1990 levels during 2008-2012, as a first step towards reducing emissions by 60 per cent by 2050.

**Sustainable water supply** – a new target to ensure South Australia’s water resources are managed within sustainable limits by 2018.

**River Murray** – a renewed commitment to increase environmental flows by 500GL in the River Murray by 2009 as a first step towards improving sustainability in the Murray-Darling Basin, with a longer-term target of 1500 GL by 2018.

**Renewable energy** – a renewed commitment to support the development of renewable energy so that it comprises 20 per cent of the state's electricity production and consumption by 2014.

## **FOSTERING CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION**

**Creative industries** – a new target to increase the number of South Australians working in creative industries by 20 per cent by 2013.

**Understanding of Aboriginal culture** - a new target to have Aboriginal cultural studies included in school curriculum by 2014.

**Business innovation** – a new target to have more than 50 per cent of South Australian business innovating by 2010 and more than 60 per cent by 2014.

**Business expenditure** – a renewed and more ambitious target to increase business spending on research and development to 1.5 per cent of the economy in 2010 and to 1.9 per cent by 2014.

## **BUILDING COMMUNITIES**

**Members of Parliament** – a renewed target to increase the number of women in Parliament to 50 per cent by 2014.

**Enrolment to vote** – a renewed commitment to increase political participation with a target to increase the proportion of eligible young South Australians (18-19 years) enrolled to vote to better the Australian average by 2014.

**Volunteering** – a target to maintain volunteering at 50 per cent or higher.

**Multiculturalism** – a new target to increase the percentage of South Australians who accept cultural diversity as a positive influence in the community.

## **EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY**

**Aboriginal wellbeing** – a target to improve the overall wellbeing of Aboriginal South Australians.

**Early childhood** – new targets to improve Year 1 literacy and reduce the proportion of low birthweight babies.

**Reading, writing and numeracy** – renewed commitment to improve performance against national benchmarks for Year 3, 5 and 7 students.

**Learning or earning** – a renewed commitment to increase the number of 15-19 year olds engaged fulltime in school, work or further education/training (or combination thereof) to 90 per cent by 2010.

**Science and maths**- a new target to increase achieving a Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER) or equivalent in at least one of maths, physics or chemistry by 15 per cent by 2010.