

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS GREAT SOUTH COAST



Our region in south-west Victoria extends from the iconic Shipwreck Coast to the South Australian border.

Each year, the region attracts thousands of visitors who come to enjoy its spectacular coastline and stunning natural scenery – the Great Ocean Road and the Twelve Apostles are among the world-famous attractions.

The region is also home to internationally recognised areas of indigenous significance, including Budj Bim, near Heywood, and Tower Hill, just outside Warrnambool.

As well as a growing tourism industry, the agricultural and fishing sectors underpin local economies. The region is also home to one of Australia's premier deep water ports at Portland.

The Great South coast region includes the municipalities of Corangamite, Glenelg, Moyne, Southern Grampians and Warrnambool.

We proudly acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and pay respects to their Elders past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the tradition and the culture of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The **outcomes** we are striving to achieve

Our region is striving to achieve the following long term social, economic, environmental and cultural outcomes for the individuals, families and communities who live in and visit Victoria's Great South Coast. The roadmap overleaf outlines the challenges we face in achieving these outcomes, the actions we are taking and what success looks like for our region.



Our Outcomes Roadmap



Economy

A **strong** and **diverse** Great South Coast economy with more local jobs and a growing workforce



Education & Training

Accessible, quality education and career pathways that give people of all ages an opportunity to realise their potential



Environment & Culture

A **thriving** arts and culture industry, and a **sustainable** environment with a celebrated natural beauty



Health & Community Wellbeing

A **healthy, safe** and **resilient** Great South Coast Community



Transport Networks & Infrastructure

Roads, transport and infrastructure that drive **prosperity, safety** and **liveability** across the Great South Coast

This roadmap reflects the views of the Great South Coast Regional Partnership. The roadmap is a living document that will be updated regularly by the Regional Partnership.



What success looks like for Great South Coast

Some key challenges we are facing

How our partnership is responding

The actions and key projects we are focussing on

 <p>Economy A strong and diverse Great South Coast economy with more local jobs and a growing workforce</p>	<p>Increasing our population, workforce participation numbers and visitation to the Great South Coast are key to our success. Continued growth in health and human service jobs, access to childcare, growth in our renewable energy, food and fibre industries, and digital connectivity across the region are indicators of success.</p>	<p>We have experienced strong jobs growth, however our below average population growth¹ is creating a skilled labour shortage as our local businesses seek to expand their workforces. Retention and attraction of young people to the region is low, and annual income across our region is below the State average.</p>	<p>Our region is taking steps to enhance the Great Ocean Road visitor economy and expand our local food and fibre industries, and increase productivity of these industries. We are taking steps to attract people to live and work on the Great South Coast, exploring digital advancements and supporting initiatives to improve higher education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the implementation of the priorities of the <i>Strategic Master Plan for the Great Ocean Road Visitor Economy 2015-2025</i> Supporting the implementation of the GSC Food & Fibre Action Plan Supporting the implementation of the <i>Barwon South West Population Attraction Project</i> Supporting the implementation of the GSC Digital Plan 2019
 <p>Education & Training Accessible, quality education and career pathways that give people of all ages an opportunity to realise their potential</p>	<p>An increase in year 12 or equivalent attainment from young people in our region, and enrolments in higher education, university and vocational training. Workforce growth and population retention are other key indicators of quality education and career pathways across the Great South Coast.</p>	<p>With low numbers of school leavers enrolling in further education, we need more employment opportunities for 15-24 year olds². Career pathways and employment advice is not attuned to the demand of the region's workforce, which is impacting on attracting, employing and retaining young people in the region.</p>	<p>Our region is strengthening pathways between education and industry, and bolstering career counselling models to reach young people earlier in their education journey. We are supporting steps to improve educational attainment, broadening access to higher education, university and vocational training and supporting strategies to enhance the skill level of the workforce.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Supporting the <i>Beyond the Bell</i>', community led project Advocating for projects to retain and improve access to higher education, university and vocational training Advocating for projects to strengthen pathways to higher education and employment
 <p>Environment & Culture A thriving arts and culture industry, and a sustainable environment with a celebrated natural beauty</p>	<p>A thriving visitor economy, with increasing visitation and duration of stay within coastal and inland areas of the Great South Coast region. Flourishing coastal communities, strong levels of industrial and rural residential development, alongside a healthy and protected environment for everyone to enjoy.</p>	<p>Our arts facilities and cultural infrastructure are ageing and not driving the Great South Coast visitor economy. Climate change is impacting all corners of the region, and tourism pathways from the coastline to inland are not strongly co-ordinated or capitalising on 'untapped' features of our natural environment.</p>	<p>We are supporting the UNESCO World Heritage nomination for Budj Bim, and supporting investment to modernise and expand our arts and cultural facilities. We are taking steps to protect our Region's water security and coastline, and safeguarding our future environment while planning for growth and development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the <i>World Heritage</i> nomination for Budj Bim Advocating for programs to increase native vegetation Supporting projects to strengthen and modernise arts infrastructure and facilities as well as cultural industries Supporting projects to unlock sustainable visitor access to features of our natural environment, and connect tourism pathways
 <p>Health & Community Wellbeing A healthy, safe and resilient Great South Coast Community</p>	<p>Maintaining our low crime rates, reducing instances of suicide and chronic disease, reduced instances of family violence and more women in our workforce. Strong progress 'towards zero' deaths on Great South Coast roads, and reduced instances of substance and alcohol abuse.</p>	<p>Our region has experienced above average alcohol use³, assaults and rates of family violence⁴. Mental health is a growing challenge for our region, and we are sadly experiencing a high incidence of suicide. Chronic disease and road trauma have a continued impact across our region.</p>	<p>We are building on our world-leading obesity prevention campaigns and exploring ways to promote safe living and prevent violence against women. We are undertaking work to understand and reduce road trauma across the region, supporting mental health and suicide prevention initiatives. We are strengthening local and regional health services and tackling lifestyle diseases, substance and alcohol use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the implementation of GSC <i>Strategy to Prevent Violence Against Women</i> Supporting planning for liveable and active communities Proactively addressing suicide prevention Supporting projects to strengthen local and regional health services Supporting projects to mitigate lifestyle diseases and prevent substance use
 <p>Transport Networks & Infrastructure Roads, transport and infrastructure that drive prosperity, safety and liveability across the Great South Coast</p>	<p>Availability and punctuality of commercial and passenger train services, modern passenger rail stock, travel times across our region and a reduced road toll are all key indicators of our success. The capacity of our road network to safely and efficiently carry freight is a critical measure of our economic progress.</p>	<p>Transport for Victoria predicts by 2020, our region will haul one third of Victoria's regional road corridor tonnage, however the condition, efficiency and load limitations of our roads create ongoing transport and safety challenges. Our rail freight infrastructure capacity must be able to meet demand, while our passenger rail needs further investment.</p>	<p>We are supporting the stronger integration of transport and land use planning across our region, to support our growing visitor and business economies, and our increasing urban density. We are supporting the improvement of our road conditions and safety, linkages between our key transport corridors and enhanced capacity of our rail services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support improvements to Princes Highway west of Colac Support expansion of Warrnambool-Melbourne rail services and projects to improve rail infrastructure capacity Advocate for upgrade GSC Region Road Network Advocate for new regional and rural focussed funding streams Advocate for upgrade of level crossings

References

- 1 ABS (2016)
- 2 ABS (2016)

3 Local Government Areas (LGA) Statistical Profiles (2015)

4 Crime Statistics Agency of Victoria (2018)