



*Enabling a stronger economy
for the Peel region*

Community Report

January – March 2018

Dear Residents, stakeholders and community members of the Peel region

Please find below the Regional Development Australia Peel (RDA Peel) Quarterly Report to Community for the January to March 2018 period. This report documents what we as an organisation have achieved in relation to our stated outcomes.

We hope you enjoy.

OUTCOME 1: Increased economic opportunities and investment in the Region.

We said we would:

1. Work collaboratively with regional stakeholders to leverage public investment from the Commonwealth into the Peel region's priority projects.
2. Maintain awareness of potential investment opportunities.
3. Refer potential investors to Peel Development Commission, AusIndustry, AusTrade and other relevant agencies.

We have:

- ✓ Been briefed by the State Government on their plans to develop Infrastructure WA.
- ✓ Facilitated the involvement of Australian Government officials in discussions with Fund Singapore to discuss potential investment into the Transform Peel initiative.

OUTCOME 2: Increased trade and jobs creation.

We said we would:

1. Refer potential clients to Peel Development Commission, AusIndustry, AusTrade and other relevant agencies.

We have:

- ✓ Worked closely with the Peel Employment Facilitator to identify job creation opportunities in the region and linked them with sources in the Australian Government to facilitate improved outcomes for employers.
- ✓ Been an active participant in the Peel Workforce Development Alliance.

OUTCOME 3: Cooperative effort with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders leads to improved economic development outcomes.

We said we would:

1. Be an active lead participant in the Peel Regional Leaders Forum.
2. Drive economic development by supporting evidence-based programs and initiatives.
3. Identify and foster community leadership opportunities within the region.

We have:

- ✓ Facilitated workshops for the Peel Regional Leaders Forum to guide their future structure and functions in regional advocacy, including development of an assessment matrix to determine the prioritisation of projects.
- ✓ Maintained a close working relationship with the Peel Development Commission, including receiving briefings on Tech Startup opportunities and the State Government's strategy on improving digital connectivity in regional areas.

OUTCOME 4: Achieve Government program objectives.

We said we would:

1. Deliver the Regional Development Australia Program.
2. Deliver the Inspiring Australia Regional Science Hubs Program (Peel Bright Minds).
3. Assist in delivery of programs where resources are allocated by responsible agencies.

We have:

- ✓ Launched the Peel Bright Minds initiative, supported by the Australian Government and Inspiring Australia, along with financial support from RDA, Peel Development Commission, Peel-Harvey Catchment Council and Alcoa of Australia.
- ✓ Employed a Program Coordinator to manage the Peel Bright Minds Program which has hosted a stall at Mandurah Crab Fest and a Science Café Event at Mataya Café, Mandurah.

OUTCOME 5: Maximise access to Government programs and grants.

We said we would:

1. Promote and disseminate information on Australian Government policies and grant programs
2. Support community stakeholders in the Region to develop project proposals to access funding
3. Liaise with RDA Program Coordinator to ensure flow of information from Commonwealth Departments on their programs and activities in a timely manner.
4. Update RDA Peel Web Site to enable improved dissemination of information and to reflect RDA roles under revised Charter.

We have:

- ✓ Updated our web site to provide the latest information.
- ✓ Provided a briefing to the Peel Development Commission on Commonwealth Energy initiatives.
- ✓ Provided Migration information assistance to Employment Coordinator.
- ✓ Advised community & stakeholders of opportunities available under the Regional Growth Fund and other funding initiatives via the RDA Peel eNewsletter and Facebook.
- ✓ Advised numerous stakeholders in the region of the changes to the RDA Program.

OUTCOME 6: Advice supports development outcomes.

We said we would:

1. Working in collaboration with the Peel Development Commission conduct a review of the Peel Regional Investment Blueprint.
2. Commence development of a regional level Investment Prospectus.
3. Provide submissions to Australian government inquires.
4. Provide information on regional activities and competitive advantages to all levels of government, industry, business and community sectors through effective communications.
5. Advocate for commonwealth investment in regional priority projects.

We have:

- ✓ Conducted a number of consultations with regional stakeholders regarding the Regional Investment Blueprint review in partnership with the Peel Development Commission.
- ✓ Continued to seek resolution from the Australian Government on regional eligibility boundaries for funding programs.
- ✓ Identified issues with data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics conflicting that sourced from other Australian Government agencies and are seeking resolution.
- ✓ Identified other Australian Government funding programs where the Peel region is not eligible for assistance and are seeking a response.

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