



*Enabling a stronger economy
for the Peel region*

Community Report

October - December 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 July to September 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:

- ✓ Finalised development of the Peel region's advocacy document for the upcoming Federal election.
- ✓ Worked with potential applicants on their applications to the *Building Better Regions Fund* which closed on 15th November 2018.
- ✓ Finalised development of the *Peel Region Action Plan 2019-2021* which ensures that projects are delivered within the appropriate timeframes and with the appropriate level of resources and stakeholder engagement to ensure we are able to deliver the agreed outcomes of our Blueprint.

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:

- ✓ Been working to identify suitable projects for the *Regional Employment Trials Program* which commenced on 1st October. The Peel was selected as one of 10 pilot regions for the program which provides grants of between \$7,500 and \$200,000 to local stakeholders for employment related projects.

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.

We have:

- ✓ Met with key stakeholders to discuss their future plans and priorities and opportunities to partner with RDA Peel on a variety of initiatives.
- ✓ Provided support for projects from key stakeholders seeking Government investment.
- ✓ Held a series of forums with the Aged Care Industry Forum to identify their issues and drive opportunities for employment and growth.

OUTCOME 4: Achieve Government program objectives.

We said we would:

1. Deliver the Regional Development Australia Program.
2. Transition Inspiring Australia Regional Science Hubs Program (Peel Bright Minds) to a relevant provider.
3. Participate in delivery of programs where resources are allocated by responsible agencies.
4. Assist in delivery of Regional Employment Trials program by provision of project assessment and funding recommendation to Department of Jobs and Small Business.

We have:

- ✓ Fulfilled all of our reporting and activity requirements under the *Regional Development Australia Program*.
- ✓ Been working to identify suitable projects for the *Regional Employment Trials Program* which commences on 1st October. The Peel was selected as one of 10 pilot regions for the program which provides grants of between \$7,500 and \$200,000 to local stakeholders for employment related projects.

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.
- ✓ Met with State and Federal Members of Parliament, Senators and Ministers to advise them of local and regional issues.
- ✓ Continued publication of our e-newsletter and posted information to social media
- ✓ Advised community & stakeholders of opportunities available through the *Regional Employment Trials* program.

OUTCOME 6: Advice supports development outcomes.

We said we would:

1. Continue development of a regional level Investment Prospectus.
2. Provide submissions to Australian government inquires.
3. Provide information on regional activities and competitive advantages to all levels of government, industry, business and community sectors through effective communications.
4. Advocate for commonwealth investment in regional priority projects.

We have:

- ✓ Continued development of a regional level Investment Prospectus.

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