

South Australian Northern Economic Plan January 2016

On 28 January 2016, South Australian Premier the Hon Jay Weatherill MP released the Northern Economic Plan. The Plan has been developed in foresight to the closure of Holden in South Australia at the end of 2017 and with the end of car manufacturing across the Australia.

The \$24.65 million Plan outlines the South Australian Government's pathway and direction for economic and social transformation during the next 10 years by fostering ongoing partnerships between businesses, industry, the community, all levels of government and the not for-profit sector.

The Plan also outlines the South Australian Government's priorities in response to the 2015 State Government's Economic Statement. The Plan builds on recent State Government initiatives, such as \$93 million in the 2015–16 State Budget to improve housing, roads and schools in northern Adelaide.

Furthermore, in November 2015 the South Australian Government announced its national taxation reform proposal.

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on South Australia's National Tax Reform Proposal, is available [here](#).

Northern Adelaide accounts for 16.5 per cent of South Australia's Gross State Product and has been identified as the state's major urban growth area for both population and jobs.

The Plan indicates the South Australian Government's intention to grow employment in northern Adelaide by 15,000 to reach 165,000 by 2025.

The Plan identifies six sectors as having the most potential to grow jobs and attract new investment in northern Adelaide, including:

Construction and urban renewal: The Plan outlines a series of projects that have been agreed to and meet three strategic directions - Industry growth, Thriving communities and Responsive governments.

The projects include:

- Playford Alive, which encapsulates urban renewal of Smithfield Plains and Davoren Park and greenfield development in Munno Para, Munno Para Downs, Andrews Farm and Penfield;
- Northern Adelaide Educational Facility Upgrades; private sector development of surplus council land adjacent to the Elizabeth Regional Centre to create the Northern CBD – Playford Central;
- the construction of a new office building in central Port Adelaide for re-location of public sector employees;
- The Port Adelaide Renewal project that will deliver six redeveloped waterfront living and multi-use areas to the inner Port;

- The Greater Edinburgh Parks Masterplan, which will provide options for industry and business for the development of the 4,150 hectares of land bounded by Port Wakefield Road, the Northern Expressway, Womma Road, the Adelaide-Gawler railway line, the Adelaide-Darwin railway line, Helps Road and Waterloo Corner Road; and
- Salisbury City Centre Renewal which is a major private-sector funded capital works project that will deliver residential, retail and mixed use development adjacent to the Salisbury rail station

Health, ageing and disability: The Plan indicates, with roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (South Australia Implementation), of the 6300 new jobs forecast for South Australia more than 1,700 of these jobs will be located in northern Adelaide.

Agriculture, food and beverage: The Plan states a large and growing number of food and beverage businesses are located in north Adelaide, including about 130 manufacturers and meat processors. The Plan outlines the Northern Adelaide Plains Agribusiness Initiative will see the development of three key projects to improve market access to enable South Australian food and beverage to enter global markets.

Defence; mining equipment and technology services: More than 85 per cent of Adelaide's defence industry activity occurs in north Adelaide which also supports about 5,000 highly skilled defence industry workers.

Tourism, recreation and culture: The Plan indicates visitor numbers are increasing following improvements to the Port Adelaide State Heritage and waterfront areas, the redevelopment of the St Kilda Playground and work on the City of Salisbury wetlands. The Plan recognises an increase in recreational and cultural facilities and tourism events will be important economic drivers in the region.

The Northern Economic Plan New Initiatives

New initiatives announced in the Northern Economic Plan include:

- \$10 million for a Small Business Development Fund for northern Adelaide to encourage small business to grow and create sustainable jobs;
- \$2 million to support northern businesses in creating alliances to trial electric/diesel bus prototypes manufactured in northern Adelaide;
- \$7 million to attract tenants to the Northern Adelaide Food Park and to promote the use of renewable energy and energy storage solutions at the Food Park;
- \$4 million for a new Disability Employment Hub in order to train former automotive workers, upskill existing workers and encourage university students to work in the disability sector. The Plan indicates that once the National Disability Insurance Scheme is fully implemented, it is expected 6300 jobs will be created across South Australia;
- \$500,000 to establish an advanced modular construction industry alliance in northern Adelaide with a particular focus on the mining, resources and energy sector;
- Up to \$1 million to support to a key naval shipbuilding supplier to upgrade infrastructure and equipment. This will be contingent on the award of a commercial contract, placing the company in a position to expand its commercial shipbuilding business before major naval shipbuilding projects come online;



- \$100,000 to develop a live music activation strategy in northern Adelaide; and
- \$50,000 for a youth resilience and empowerment program to be delivered by Power Community Ltd, the community development arm of the Port Adelaide Football Club.

Further information

The full South Australian Northern Economic Plan is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on South Australia's National Tax Reform Proposal, is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on South Australia's Low Carbon Investment Plan is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on South Australia's Economic Priorities Review is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on the South Australian 2015-16 Mid-Year Budget Review [click here](#).