



Government  
of South Australia



Outback  
Communities  
Authority



# Growing the Outback

2015 - 2020

## Message from the Chair

Our goal – to be the voice of the Outback – is now underpinned by a sound policy platform and we think the time is right for the Outback Communities Authority to take some bold steps and be more innovative, creative and imaginative in its thinking.

The OCA's Growing the Outback 2015-2020 Strategic Management Plan outlines how we can achieve our goals by growing our economy, growing our community, and growing our influence and presence. We want to position the Outback front and centre as a unique and distinct part of South Australia and the nation and we want you to share this vision with us because it has the potential to affect all who live, work and play in our vast, beautiful, productive and resource-rich region.

Our communities are diverse and the OCA embraces all those who live, work and play here, be it in townships, smaller settlements or large land holdings. Whether we are locals, fly-in and fly-out workers or drive through visitors, we all make a contribution and have an impact.

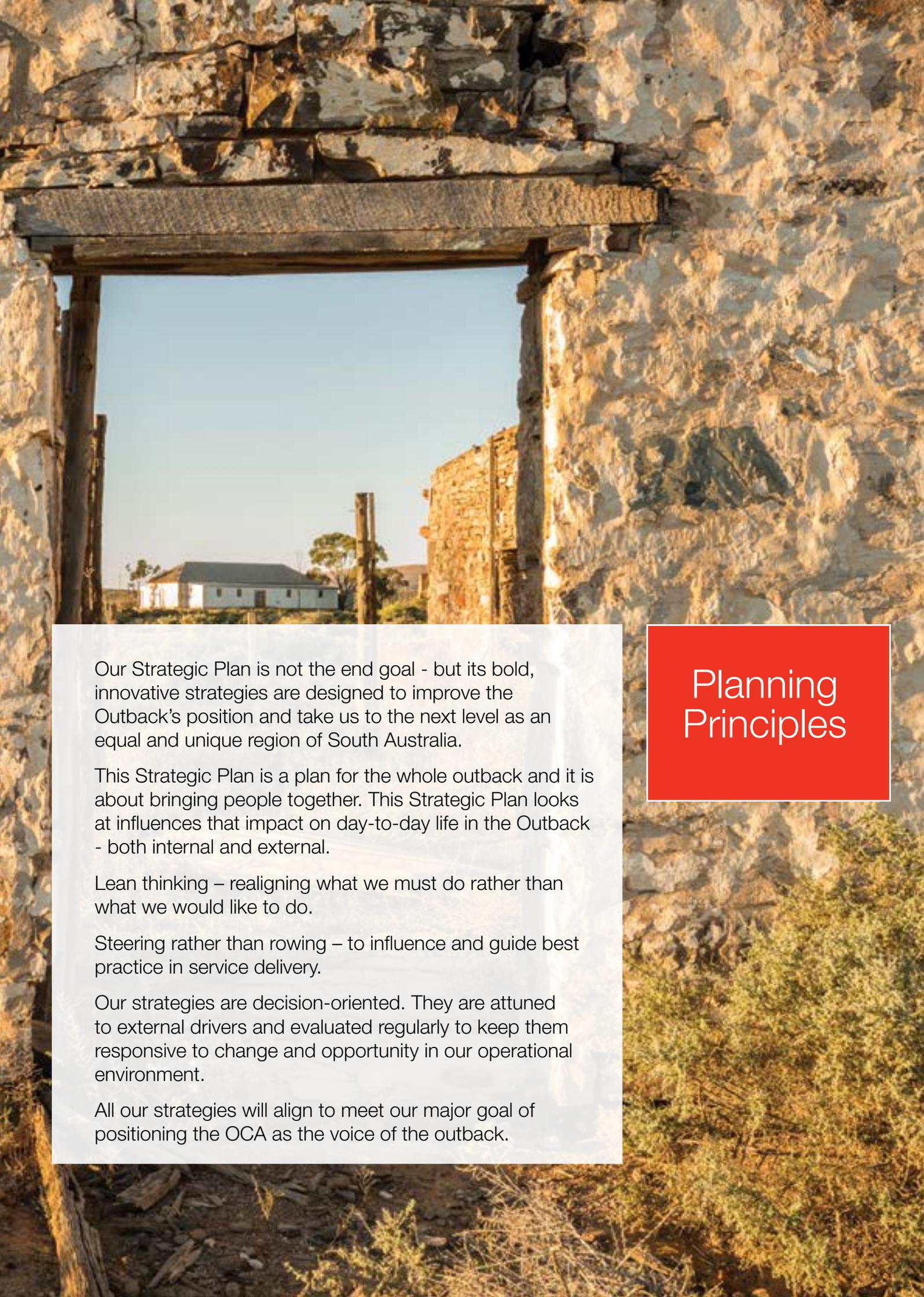
The OCA values the work of our many economic groupings, including service industries, pastoralism, tourism, mining, the environment and businesses small or large.

Our 5 year plan is deliberately broad in its view. However, more specific actions – and of course we will consult on these as we go – will be spelt out each year in our Annual Business Plan. Our first year will focus on planning and learning from you what you value most and what really are the fundamental economic drivers for a sustainable future in the Outback.

We will foster innovative communications, innovative infrastructure, innovative education and, through these tools, innovative communities.

So I ask you to come with us on this path as we develop a platform that looks at a much broader horizon so we can achieve new and better outcomes for everyone in our Outback region.

**Cecilia Woolford - Chair**

A photograph of a stone archway made of rough-hewn stones and wooden beams. The archway frames a view of a white building with a dark roof in the distance under a clear blue sky. The foreground shows some dry, scrubby vegetation.

Our Strategic Plan is not the end goal - but its bold, innovative strategies are designed to improve the Outback's position and take us to the next level as an equal and unique region of South Australia.

This Strategic Plan is a plan for the whole outback and it is about bringing people together. This Strategic Plan looks at influences that impact on day-to-day life in the Outback - both internal and external.

Lean thinking – realigning what we must do rather than what we would like to do.

Steering rather than rowing – to influence and guide best practice in service delivery.

Our strategies are decision-oriented. They are attuned to external drivers and evaluated regularly to keep them responsive to change and opportunity in our operational environment.

All our strategies will align to meet our major goal of positioning the OCA as the voice of the outback.

## Planning Principles



## Mission

The Outback  
Communities Authority is  
the Voice of our Outback  
Communities

## Vision

Together we will grow the  
Outback as a Region for  
the benefit of all who live,  
work and visit

# Objective 1

Grow our Economy

New investment into the outback  
**having shovel-ready projects**

**Strategy** > We will actively engage with communities to develop favorable environments for new investment in the outback.

Promote alternative income opportunities

**recognise and highlight economic diversity**

**Strategy** > We will invest in an analysis of the outback's economic drivers and promote opportunities for diversification.

Enable communities to contribute to their priorities

**introduce the ASL across the outback**

**Strategy** > We will work toward the introduction of an Asset Sustainability Levy (ASL) to meet some of the cost of delivering services and infrastructure across the outback and in turn deliver more on-ground investment into communities.



## Objective 2

Grow our Community

Improve the well-being of people living, working and visiting the outback

**a better place for all**

**Strategy** > We will foster improvements in and develop partnerships with other service providers that improve the quality of service to the outback.

Find out what matters in the outback

**what is important to outback people?**

**Strategy** > We will talk with those that live, work and visit the outback to get a better understanding of what is important to them.

Report back to the community what we have learnt

**what you told us is important**

**Strategy** > We will produce a oneOutback prospectus that delivers on our Regions aspirations to improve our quality of life.

DAD  
USE



## Objective 3

Grow our Influence  
and Presence

Progressive and innovative policy  
development

**sensible policies that work**

**Strategy** > We will continue to develop and review policy to enable and influence better service and project delivery in the outback.

Report on the current state of the  
outback

**how is the outback tracking?**

**Strategy** > We will produce periodically a State of the Outback report that analyses the statistical data available across environmental, economic and social parameters for the outback.

The OCA to have a greater say in the  
decision being made for the outback

**if it is happening in the outback we will be  
at the table**

**Strategy** > We will promote the OCA as the gateway into and out of the outback.

OCA Links with  
Stakeholder  
Strategic Plans

The OCA's strategies sit within a broader state and national context. They align with the following:

- South Australia Government's Seven Strategic Priorities 2014
  - > Creating a vibrant city; An affordable place to live; Every chance for every child; Growing advanced manufacturing; Safe communities; Healthy neighbourhoods; Realising the benefits of the mining boom for all and Premium food and wine from our clean environment.
- South Australia's Strategic Plan 2011
  - > Our Community; Our Prosperity; Our Environment; Our Health, Our Education and Our Ideas.
- Australian Government Priorities (articulated on Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development and Regional Development Australia websites).

## Long Term Asset Management

The OCA has a responsibility to manage and promote improvements in the provision of public services and facilities to outback communities. In doing so, the OCA will consider the long-term requirements for maintenance, replacement and development of infrastructure within its control. To ensure public services are provided in an efficient and sustainable way the OCA will develop and adhere to long term management plans setting out the maintenance, replacement and development requirements for infrastructure and facilities across the outback.

## OCA Forward Estimates 2015-2020 (Long Term Financial Plan)

	2015-16 \$000	2016-17 \$000	2017-18 \$000	2018-19 \$000	2019-20 \$000
<b>Revenue</b>					
Local Government					
Grants Commission (Federal Grants)	1440	1440	1476	1513	1551
State Appropriation	643	657	670	672	673
Community Contribution Schemes	242	242	242	242	242
Other Revenue	175	179	183	187	192
<b>Total</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>2518</b>	<b>2571</b>	<b>2614</b>	<b>2658</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Corporate	607	627	647	668	690
Community Development	1256	1236	1252	1262	1272
Infrastructure	637	655	672	684	696
<b>Total</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>2518</b>	<b>2571</b>	<b>2614</b>	<b>2658</b>



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