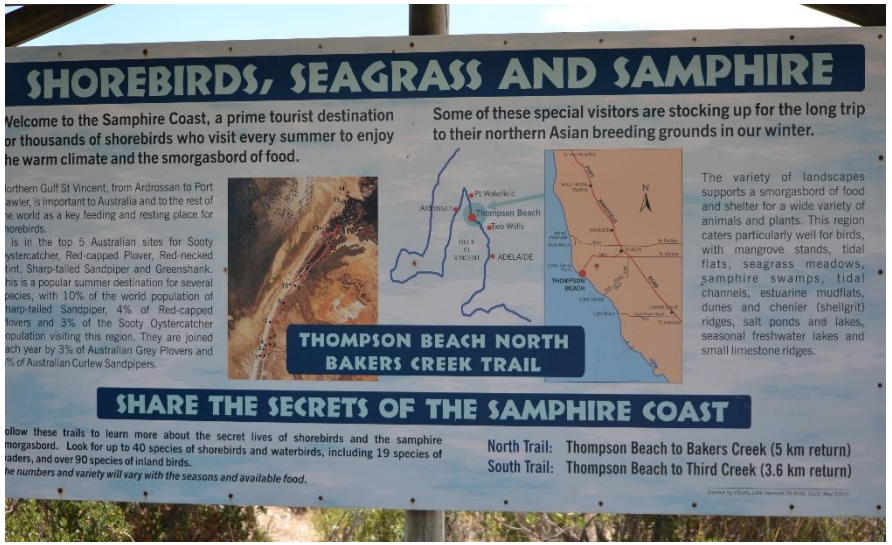










THOMPSON BEACH SETTLEMENT PLAN

2025

Adelaide Plains Council

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Front cover images – Thompson Beach is a coastal settlement based around shorebirds, seagrass and samphire. Adjoining the Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara, Thompson Beach stretches along the Esplanade.

Adelaide Plains Council acknowledges that we are located on the Traditional Country of the Kaurna People of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land and we acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna People living today.

Widninga is the Aboriginal name for Thompson Beach.

This Plan was informed by extensive consultation informed by a discussion paper in early 2024. What was heard in consultation was reported to the Council meeting of 27 May. Following discussions on various drafts and input from various organisations, the Thompson Beach Progress Association provided support in November and this Plan was adopted by Council on 16 December 2024.

Document Reference D25/247

Purpose

The purpose of the Thompson Beach Settlement Plan (Plan) is to identify strategies and actions to:

- Augment the liveability and sustainability of Thompson Beach for residents and visitors
- Plan Thompson Beach to integrate and align with planning for Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara.

This Plan involves some actions for APC to lead. Some actions are for others to deliver, including State Government, and development and community partners. APC will collaborate with others as appropriate on all the strategies and actions.

This Plan draws on the Thompson Beach Discussion Paper and consultation.

This Plan is prepared as a sub-plan of the Council Wide Growth Strategy and Action Plan (GSAP). It uses the same structure and approach, and as a document, can potentially be incorporated into the GSAP.

Role of Council

This Strategy describes Council's roles as:

- Plan
- Advocate
- Deliver/facilitate.

Vision

Council's Strategic Plan identifies the vision for the Council area.

These strategies include enviable lifestyle, emerging economy, remarkable landscapes and proactive leadership.

The Thompson Beach Settlement Plan supports achievement of the aspired Vision by identifying Actions to support outcome areas of:

- Enviable Lifestyle
- Emerging Economy
- Remarkable Economy
- Proactive Leadership

This Settlement Plan also supports the Tourism and Economic Development Strategy themes of:

- Town Centres and Main Streets
- Business Support and Growth
- Food and Primary Industries
- Coastal Experiences
- Marketing and Branding.

Setting the Scene

Thompson Beach is in the north west of Adelaide Plains, a region centred on Dublin. Widninga is the Aboriginal name for Thompson Beach[1].

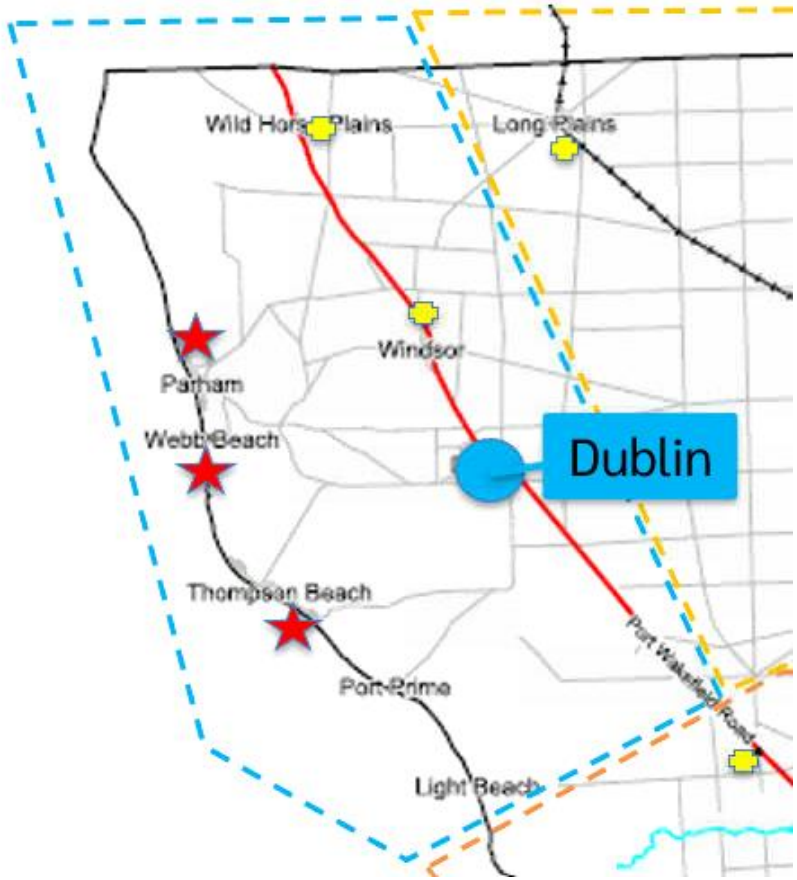
It takes 10 minutes to drive the 9.3km to Thompson Beach from Dublin.

The Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara is the key coastal feature, entailing Thompson Beach with undeveloped lots can increase to around 400 residents and can play a key visitation role to coastal areas and AIBSNP-WP.

Dublin is the principal township, with opportunities to grow and diversify drawing on its location centrally in the region and on Port Wakefield Highway.

[1] See AIBSNP-WP Management Plan.

The Discussion Paper prepared through investigations and engagement informs this strategy.



Thompson Beach is in the north west of Adelaide Plains

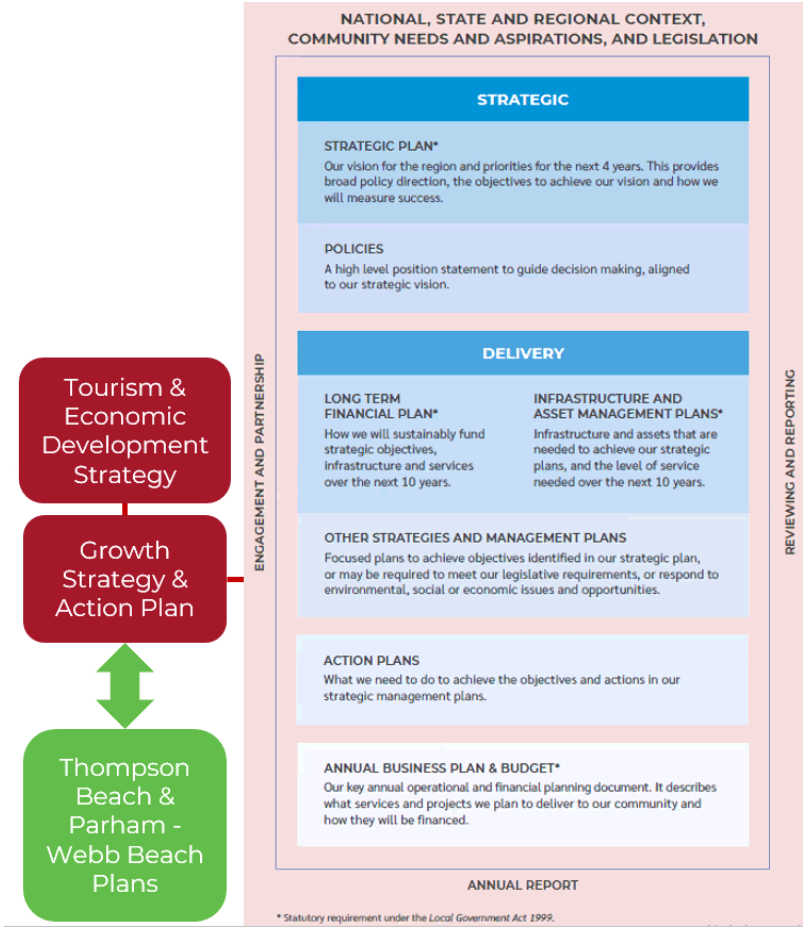
Relationship with Other Strategies

This Plan is prepared in the context of other strategies, in particular Council's Growth Strategy and Tourism and Economic Development Strategy.

This Plan is a sub strategic plan that is informed by and informing other strategic plans.

Preparing this Plan progresses an action in the 2023 Growth Strategy[2] to prepare settlement plans for the 11 coastal and rural settlements:

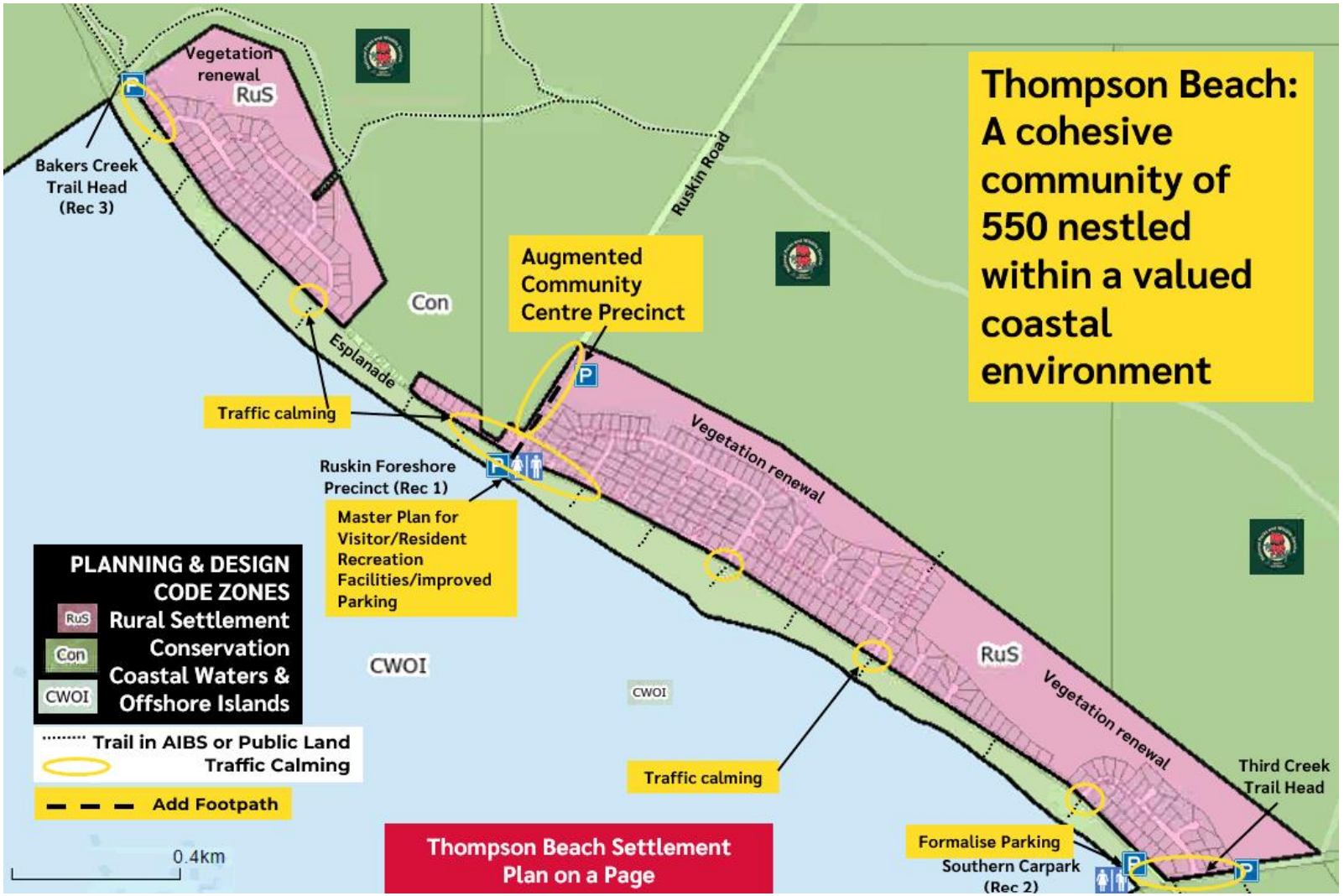
'Settlement Plans – progressively prepare integrated plans across living, business and tourism, and environment for the coastal and rural settlements. Work with local communities to support local facilities/services, including considering walking, cycling and recreation and sport. The intent is tailored plans for each settlement.'



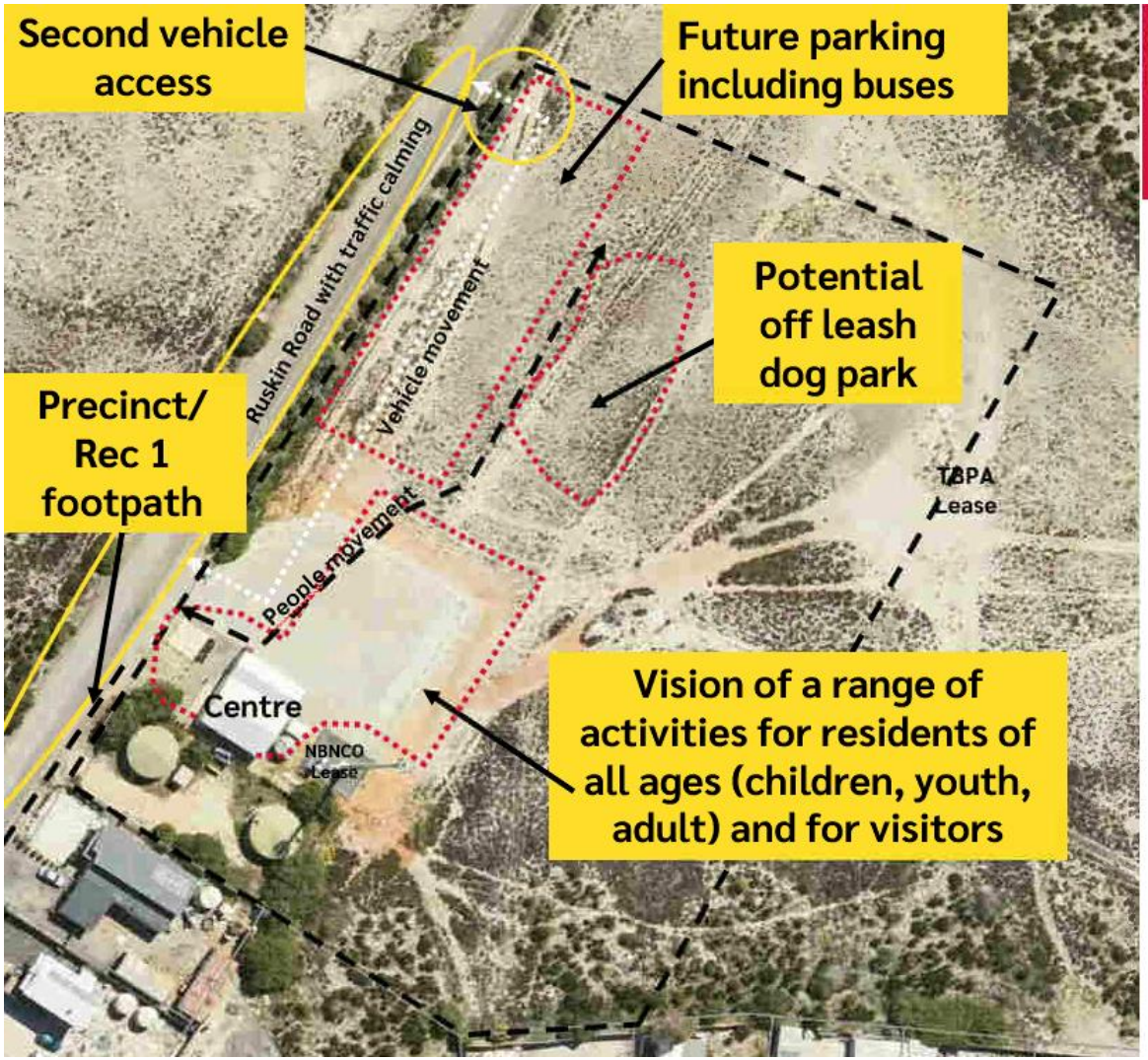
How the Thompson Beach Settlement Plan relates to Council's Other Plans

[2] Available via apc.sa.gov.au/council-services/development/strategicprojects

Thompson Beach Settlement Plan on a Page



Community Centre Precinct Concept Plan



Community Centre Precinct Concept Plan subject to more detailed investigations and engagement

Key Features

- Expanded range of activities for residents and visitors, including at the community centre.
- Resident and visitor activities collocated with easy ability to move between, and separated from parking and maneuvering
- Parking expansion
- Second vehicle access Site for off leash dog park if sufficient need
- Traffic calming on Ruskin Road including a footpath

Rec 1 Concept Plan



Actions

This part of the Thompson Beach Plan forms the actions.

	Actions	Community Benefit	Next Steps

1.	**Community Centre Precinct Vision** – TBPA pursue a 2 to 5-year vision of a range of activities for residents of all ages (children, youth, adult) and for visitors.
	
	• Enable a wider demographic and enhanced visitor role through an expanded range of collocated activities e.g.
	  ○ Centre with playground and increased coffee/food type role
	  ○ Wayfinding and signage
	  ○ High visual appeal e.g. Iconic architecture, art
	  ○ Separated people and vehicle movement
	• Consider toilets at Centre for public use and not have public toilets at Rec 1
	• Footpath/safe way for kids/adults to get from Precinct to Rec 1/Foreshore
	• Expand open area to the east with parking, including for visitor buses, and vehicle manoeuvring direct from a traffic calmed Ruskin Road. Further consider demand and need for off leash dog park
	• Install school bus shelter
	(See Community Precinct Concept Plan)
	
	Key Council Partner - Development and Community Team
		Health, social and visitor benefits from increased range of community, recreation and visitor activities and facilities.	TBPA progress master planning and work with APC on approvals (.e.g. lease/planning) and grant funding

	Actions	Community Benefit	Next Steps
2.	**Rec 1 Vision** – pursue a 2 to 5-year vision through preparing a master plan with facilities for residents and visitors involving: • shelter/shade • picnic table • water fountain • some ability for children play • wind breaks • art based design • more vegetation • paving to access foreshore • Potentially installing accessible beach matting to enable access by people with limited ability • formalised parking/adjusted access. (see Rec 1 Concept Plan) Key Council Partner - Development and Community Team	Health and social benefits from increased range of recreation activities and facilities.	APC investigate and engage to prepare master plan. Seek funding (including grants)
3.	**Rec 2 Vision** – Make best use of existing parking area by formalising spaces to ensure parking efficiency.	Effective use of limited parking areas.	APC investigate and implement best method for formalising
4.	**Bakers (Rec 3)/Third Creek Trail Heads** – upgrade trail head parking and visitor welcome areas	Effective use of limited parking areas.	NPWS progress as resources become available

5.	**Experiencing Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara** • Collaborate with National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Environment and Water and Kaurna Parks Advisory Committee on strategies to enable ongoing resident and visitor experiences and infrastructure such as signage and trails. Visitor experience and infrastructure strategies are subject to shorebirds and habitat being conserved. • Visitor experiences can include cultural, educational, fishing, crabbing, boating, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, bird watching, walking, dogs on lead, and based around jinkers and regenerative tourism. • Investigate establishing in Park trails for a short distance directly from Bakers Creek and Third Creek Trail Heads tailored for most ages and fitness levels, as well as wheel chair users. • Continue to provide information about the variety of walks where greater levels of bushwalking experience is recommended. • Investigate opportunities as they emerge for a centre to be established about birds, coast and culture, noting any centre needs an organisation prepared to resource the establishment and long term operation.	Shared approach to Park experiences for residents and visitors	APC/NPWS collaborate on Park visitor planning

	Actions	Community Benefit	Next Steps
6.	**Dogs –** Continue to educate about the benefit of on leash in terms of bird protection. Council consider amending the bylaw to provide the power to enable an off leash option rather than a blanket no. Investigate establishment of dog off leash area as part of the Community Centre Precinct, including need and feasibility.	Broader community understanding about on leash expectations and off-leash options	APC/TBPA
7.	**Esplanade Traffic Calming and Sealing** – take progressive steps to finalise the proposal and implement. (See Thompson Beach Settlement Plan on a Page) Key Council Partner – Infrastructure and Environment Team	Improved safety and less dust leading to better water quality	APC finalise detailed plans, undertake formal consultation, and seek funding (including grants)
8.	**Foreshore Vehicle Access** - undertake consultation about seasonal vehicle closure drawing on learnings from the 2020 pilot vehicle closure at Thompson Beach. Supports obligations under the Federally endorsed Conservation Action Plan for Migratory Shorebirds and the Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC).	Bird breeding season better supported	APC undertake consultation.
9.	**Trail Network –** Continue to investigate a network of trails connecting Thompson Beach, Parham, Webb Beach and Dublin (which may include land within Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara and subject to agreement by NPWS) and pursue opportunities as they appear.	Improved movement options regionally	APC investigate

	Actions	Community Benefit	Next Steps
10.	**Trail Network –** Continue to investigate a network of trails connecting Thompson Beach, Parham, Webb Beach and Dublin (which may include land within Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary National Park - Winaityinaityi Pangkara and subject to agreement by NPWS) and pursue opportunities as they appear.	Improved movement options regionally	APC investigate
11.	**Community Transport** – Promote monthly service from Mallala via Parham and through Dublin and Two Wells to Elizabeth City Centre.	A level of service	APC/TBPA market the service and monitor is uptake
11	**Preparing for Hazards** – Communicate to residents to be prepared for hazards, such as fire or coastal inundation. Available information includes general hazards[3] and the 2014 coastal inundation framework report at Thompson Beach[4].	Hazard ready residents.	TBPA regular communications to residents, with support from APC.
12	Investigate and prepare **Fire/Emergency Plan** including Assembly Area/s.	Hazard ready residents.	TBPA in partnership with APC
13.	Prepare an updated **coastal adaptation strategy** over 2024 and 2025.	Updated adaptation strategy	APC prepare updated coastal adaptation strategy.

[3] apc.sa.gov.au/council-services/emergenciesanddisasters
[4] apc.sa.gov.au/council-services/development/strategicprojects

	Actions	Community Benefit	Next Steps
14.	Ensure **emergency management preparedness** in circumstance of single road access being unavailable.	Prepared emergency agencies	APC engage with Barossa Zone Emergency Management Committee.
12.	**Collaborating** - TBPA and APC continue to work together informed by what was heard in the 2024 consultation based on the Discussion Paper and is heard through consultation on more specific proposals.	Collaboration	TBPA/APC Ongoing