



**Government
of South Australia**

Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular

PC024 – Integration of South Australia’s Strategic Plan, the South Australian Planning Strategy, the Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia and the Core Directions of the Integrated Design Commission of South Australia into Government Agency Planning Processes

*May 2004
(Amended August 2010)*

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1.0 Summary

The principal across-government strategic plans prepared by the South Australian Government to provide strategic direction in the medium to long-term and guide planning, investment and service or program delivery are:

- South Australia’s Strategic Plan (SASP)
- The South Australian Planning Strategy
- The Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia (SIPSA)
- The Core Directions of the Integrated Design Commission for South Australia (IDC).

These are reviewed and updated from time to time to reflect contemporary trends and the Government’s policy objectives and priorities.

This Circular sets out the policy for all State Government agencies to link their planning, investments and service delivery to the objectives, targets, principles and priorities of these four across-government strategies. The Circular aims to ensure an integrated approach toward achievement of the Government’s strategic priorities through effective alignment of agency planning, investment and service/program delivery. Further guidance on adhering to the principals required by this Circular is provided in the Department of Treasury and Finance’s Guidelines for the Evaluation of Public Sector Initiatives.

2.0 Policy

Government agencies are advised that Cabinet has approved the following policy to apply immediately.

2.1 Strategic Planning Processes

The SASP, South Australian Planning Strategy, SIPSA and the IDC are the overarching across-government strategies prepared by the South Australian Government to provide medium to long-term strategic direction to agencies. All Government agencies have a role in contributing to the implementation of these strategies and should ensure that their operations are consistent with these strategies.

In particular, all agencies are to ensure the following:

- The objectives, targets, principles and priorities in South Australia's Strategic Plan, the South Australian Planning Strategy, the Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia and the work of the Integrated Design Commission are considered in the planning processes of Government agencies.
- All high level documents and plans produced by Government agencies must reflect the objectives, targets, principles and priorities of South Australia's Strategic Plan, the South Australian Planning Strategy, the Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia and the Integrated Design Commission and refer to them as necessary.
- Agencies must demonstrate the alignment between their own business plans and South Australia's Strategic Plan, the South Australian Planning Strategy, the Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia and the Integrated Design Commission. Agencies' business plans are to include specific comment as to how each of the high level goals, objectives or strategies in those plans will contribute towards achieving their objectives, targets, principles and priorities of the four across-government strategies.
- Agencies will ensure that the institutional, legislative, budgetary and decision making processes relating to planning and delivery of new infrastructure and services integrate with the Government's policies for managing growth and change as contained in South Australia's Strategic Plan, the South Australian Planning Strategy, the Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia and the Integrated Design Commission's core directions.

2.2 Cabinet Submissions

All Cabinet submissions are required to make specific reference to South Australia's Strategic Plan, in one of three ways:

- Wherever possible, information needs to be provided about how the proposal outlined in the Cabinet submission will impact on South Australia's Strategic Plan targets.
- Where a proposal cannot be linked to a target but will progress the Government's key strategic priorities under the broad objectives of the plan, this can be mentioned. 'Key Points' listed under each objective provide a guide on what may be included.
- Where a proposal cannot be linked to South Australia's Strategic Plan at either target or objective level (or can only be linked tenuously or indirectly) note that there is no link.

Information to include on Cabinet submission cover sheets

All submissions are required to include the following information, as applicable, on cover sheets under the heading: *Relevant Government Policy and / or South Australia's Strategic Plan Target*.

- Specific South Australia's Strategic Plan targets that the proposal will progress (or objective only when it can be clearly demonstrated how it will progress an objective's 'key points')
- South Australia's Strategic Plan targets on which the proposal may have a negative impact
- Alternatively, a comment advising there is no link to South Australia's Strategic Plan - when the proposal is routine in nature, or the links are tenuous, this should be simply stated rather than trying to invent a link
- Where a submission is an expansion of, or supports, a previous submission the targets are not required to be listed again. The date of the original submission should, however, be provided.

Information to include in the body of the submission

Within the 'Discussion' section of the submission, a sub-section needs to be created entitled South Australia's Strategic Plan, to include information that supports the links entered on the cover sheet. Commentary should explain:

- how the proposal will contribute to towards achieving the target(s) or objective(s), and
- where there are conflicting tensions between targets, any action that will be undertaken to address negative impacts

3.0 Background Information

3.1 South Australia's Strategic Plan

South Australia's Strategic Plan (SASP) was initially released by the State Government in 2004 and updated in 2007. The current SASP is available on line at www.stateplan.sa.gov.au.

The plan outlines a medium to long-term course for the whole of South Australia. It sets out targets grouped under six interrelated objectives:

- Growing Prosperity
- Improving Wellbeing
- Attaining Sustainability
- Fostering Creativity and Innovation
- Building Communities
- Expanding Opportunity

Each target is allocated to a government agency, referred to as the lead agency, which has responsibility for developing implementation plans and strategies to achieve the target.

Most targets have supporting agencies that also contribute to the successful achievement of the target. Both lead and support agencies are expected to collaborate to develop and implement strategies and actions for each target.

The Executive Committee of Cabinet (ExComm) oversees the implementation of SASP throughout the Government and into the community. In particular, it aims to ensure that State Government agencies are pursuing plan targets in a collaborative, focused and innovative way. The plan is a key instrument for determining strategic priorities for agencies and is an important element of performance assessment for chief executives.

3.2 The South Australian Planning Strategy

The South Australian Planning Strategy is prepared by the South Australian Government pursuant to section 22 of the *Development Act 1993* to guide land use and physical development, as well as the planning and delivery of infrastructure and services, across the state over the medium to long term. There are various volumes of the South Australian Planning Strategy, each covering a separate geographic region, including *The 30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide*.

The South Australian Planning Strategy is a dynamic spatial expression of *South Australia's Strategic Plan* and one of the key policy and budgetary instruments of the South Australian Government. The Strategy identifies where future residential, industrial and commercial development will and will not occur. In doing so it sets out how the South Australian Government proposes to effectively manage population and economic growth and change, preserve the environment and respond to the many challenges confronting the state including climate change and water security.

All government agencies must demonstrate alignment of their policies, projects, programs and planning with the objectives, principles and policies set out in the South Australian Planning Strategy, including through:

- infrastructure and services planning, reflected in the Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia
- agency asset strategies and strategic assessment processes required by Premier and Cabinet Circular 114
- project and program business cases which support agency investing programs reported in the State Budget
- collaboration with other agencies and key stakeholders as required to prepare Structure Plans for new growth areas and transit corridors.

The various volumes of the South Australian Planning Strategy are updated at least every five years (the Plan for Greater Adelaide will be updated annually) and are available on line at www.planning.sa.gov.au .

3.3 The Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia

The Strategic Infrastructure Plan for South Australia (SIPSA) was initially released by the State Government in April 2005 to provide a five-to ten year framework to guide all levels of government, the private sector and the community in the planning, delivery, management and use of infrastructure across the state. The foundation for the plan is provided by SASP, which established the broad long-term priorities for the state. SIPSA is updated regularly and is available on line at www.infrastructure.sa.gov.au/strategic_infrastructure_plan.

The plan incorporates four broad strategies.

- To coordinate infrastructure planning and construction across the state.
- To pursue more efficient and competitive infrastructure systems.
- To pursue and promote sustainable development through sound planning and use of infrastructure.
- To meet future demands in a timely and innovative manner.

The plan requires an integrated and rigorous whole-of-government and whole-of-state approach to identifying and prioritising infrastructure requirements.

3.4 The Integrated Design Commission

The aim of the IDC SA is to positively inculcate the importance of integrated design thinking in all human activity in the State. Its key objective is to advocate for a whole-of-Government (local and state) approach to the value of design. The Commission will advocate for, and advise on, ways to achieve excellence in the designed environment through an intelligent investment approach.

The core directions for the IDC SA are Design Excellence, Engagement and Research.

For further information on the work of the IDC, please contact Mr Tim Horton, Commissioner for Integrated Design, on telephone 08 8226 1396 or email horton.tim@dpc.sa.gov.au.

3.5 Treasury Guidelines

The Department of Treasury and Finance's *Guidelines for the Evaluation of Public Sector Initiatives* provides more detailed guidance on adhering to the principles required by this Circular.

These guidelines assist agencies evaluate initiatives such as construction projects, changes in government policy, changes to regulations and legislation, and public sector programs.

Treasurer's Instruction 17 instructs the Chief Executive of each public authority to ensure that officers of that public authority evaluate public sector initiatives in accordance with the evaluation framework detailed in the Guidelines. The Guidelines can be accessed from:

<http://www.treasury.sa.gov.au/public/download.jsp?id=3080>