TATIARA LOCAL ACTION PLAN STRATEGIC VISION 2025-2030



The Tatiara District Local Action Plan Strategic Vision 2025 2030 has been developed by Strategic Matters Consultancy in partnership with the Council's Local Action Plan Advisory Committee (including Trevor Thomas, Michael Hunt, Phil Verco, Hamish Verco, Nathaniel Modra, Tiffany Bennett, Cr Richard Halliday, Cr Miles Hannemann, Mayor Liz Goossens, CEO Anne Champness, Tracey Strugnell & Samantha Blight) over a six-month period. The process involved a series of workshops, in-depth discussions, and valuable input from local stakeholders, experts, and best practice case studies.

Our aim was to create a pragmatic and adaptable strategy that addresses climate resilience, agricultural sustainability, and environmental challenges while considering the unique needs of our region.

This plan reflects a collaborative effort, acknowledging the contributions of our partners, key experts, and the dedication of all those involved. It is complemented by a one-page "Plan on a Page" for clarity and ease of public access and implementation.

We are confident this plan will guide our district toward a sustainable and resilient future, building on our collective strengths and commitment to environmental stewardship.

Signed Liz and Anne

VISION

Making the Good Country even better

MISSION ... we implement our vision through

Valuing and nurturing the d**istrict**'s natural beauty, fostering innovation, and enhancing interconnectedness of people and nature.

Cultivating sustainable and prosperous systems across agriculture, the environment, and communities.

Pro-actively supporting stakeholders to build longer term resilience across the economy, community and our environment.

GOALS This Plan is structured around four key goals

1. Sustainable land use and agricultural practices
2. Water resource management and security
3. Biodiversity and ecosystem management
4. Communities adapting to climate related challenges

VALUES This plan is underpinned by the following values



- **Connected Communities**
  Build stronger relationships between urban and rural communities, promoting a shared sense of responsibility for environmental and agricultural sustainability.
- **Sustainable Land Management**
  Support sustainable land management to enhance productivity while preserving and restoring ecosystems.
- **Water Sustainability**
  Strengthen responsible water management by promoting efficient use, and community led governance to ensure sustainable decision making and resilience in local water systems.
- **Climate Resilience**
  Equip the community with the knowledge and tools to adapt to a changing climate, improve disaster preparedness and implement climate-smart practices.
- **Collaborative Leadership**
  Encourage inclusive decision making, community-led initiatives and create strong regional partnerships.

G1: SUSTAINABLE LAND USE AND AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

The aim of this goal is to advance sustainable agricultural and land management practices that enhance soil health, optimise resource use, support resilience to climate challenges, and drive economic growth through business innovation and circular economy principles.

Measures of Success	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	LAP Role
Improved soil health Stronger business confidence Optimal agricultural productivity	1 Promote farming techniques that restore soil health and water retention	• Promote the adoption of practices that improve soil health / structure and plant growth. • Promote best practice grazing management. • Implement soil conservation techniques to retain moisture and reduce runoff. e.g. increased organic matter and ground cover. • Work with the Landscape Board and others, support the uptake of revegetation of species native to the Tatiara.	Connector / Broker and Partner
Increased farmer participation in property management planning Increased business confidence	2 Support farmers with property management planning	• Facilitate farmer-to-farmer networking and support programs to share best practices. • Organise farm visits or demonstration days showcasing successful property management plans. • Work with the Landscape Board to provide access to agronomists, ecologists, and other specialists to advise on property-specific issues.	Connector / Broker and Doer
Greater industry diversity and innovation Growth in local employment	3 Increase diversity of industries	• Encourage relationships with emerging industries, extension services and research and development initiatives. • Collaborate with others to identify and promote value adding opportunities within agriculture and related sectors. • Together with others, support the establishment of a range of demonstration and trial sites of businesses engaged in innovative and impactful projects.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Increased adoption of water efficient practises, improving agricultural water use and resilience	4 Support water security and efficiency in agriculture	• Promote and encourage a healthy interface between riparian buffer zones and wetlands. • Promote management of native vegetation in the landscape to reduce recharge and support retention of water in the landscape. • Continue to support soil amelioration and innovative agronomic practices. • Promote and adopt water security technology practices linking with Limestone Coast Landscape Board.	Connector / Broker and Doer
Increased adoption of circular economy practises and initiatives	5 Greater circular economy and local initiatives	• Promote closed loop farming systems such as composting organic waste for soil health. • Work with others to promote and support on farm and regional bio waste recycling programs. • Support waste initiatives in food production and local markets, including surplus food redistribution.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate

G2: WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY

The aim of this goal is to enhance regional water management knowledge, increase water security across urban and agricultural sectors, promote water-saving technologies, restore water in the landscape, and explore infrastructure development, community-driven governance models and community stewardship.

Measures of Success	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	LAP Role
Improved understanding of Tatiara water resources	1. Develop a clear understanding of the current and future water resources in the Tatiara	• Work with key experts to understand: – Current Tatiara water resources and condition. – Understand the future of Tatiara water resources based on current trends, population growth and land use – identifying potential resource shortfalls in water quantity and quality. – The range of water resource alternatives and technologies available for the Tatiara into the future.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Increased retention of water in the landscape	2. Improve the amount of water retained in the landscape	• Integrate water retention goals into regional planning frameworks. • Pilot small-scale wetland projects to test their effectiveness and refine techniques. • Support training sessions for landowners on the benefits and management of wetlands and recharge zones. • Collaborate with the Landscape Board to map the district's hydrological conditions and identify potential sites for wetlands and recharge zones.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Increased retention of water in the landscape Enhanced water security options	3. Integrate Water Sensitive Urban Design into township planning and design to enhance water management	• Identify priority areas for WSUD demonstrations, such as rain gardens, permeable surfaces, and 'green' infrastructure. • Establish demonstration sites in key township locations, such as community centres, schools, or parks. • Collaborate with Tatiara District Council, Landscape Board, SA Water, and stakeholders to integrate Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) into Tatiara townships.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Improved water management Stronger community decision making	4. Encourage participatory water governance involving local rural and urban communities.	• Work with community members to develop a longer-term collective aim for water management in the Tatiara. • Promoting collective ownership of water as a common good.	Connector / Broker and Doer
Enhanced water security options Increased business confidence	5. Improve water security and or use efficiency across the landscape	• Promote adoption of new and existing water security technologies and innovations. • Explore infrastructure, policy, advocacy water needs of / for the community.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Increase in the community's value of water and participation in sustainable practises	6. Promote community based water stewardship programs	• Establish partnerships with schools, community groups, and businesses to implement water conservation projects. • Launch public campaigns to highlight the importance of shared responsibility in maintaining water security.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Doer

G3: BIODIVERSITY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The aim of this goal is to support the restoration of high-value local ecosystems, increase corridors to enhance connectedness, improve biodiversity health across public and private land, and support regional programs for managing feral pests, plants, and animals.

Measures of Success	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	LAP Role
Hectares of native vegetation protected and managed Increased hectares of land revegetated	1. Protect and enhance high value biodiversity remnants on private and public lands	• Identify geographical locations of high value biodiversity. • Prioritise management efforts based on biodiversity value. • Collaborate with landholders to develop biodiversity projects. • Protect and restore riparian zones and wetlands.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Doer
Expansion of habitat conservation areas Increased recognition and investment in native vegetation Improved connectivity between remnant vegetation	2. Increase the health of biodiversity across private land / Increase land restoration that re-establishes native vegetation	• Encourage ecological burning to control weeds and encourage native regrowth. • Promote a range of revegetation techniques and resources. • Pursue opportunities to demonstrate virtual fencing.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Increased recognition and investment in native vegetation Increased hectares of native vegetation protected and managed	3. Enhance roadside remnant vegetation	• Revisit the Tatiara Roadside Vegetation Management Plan. • Identify roadsides where vegetation needs to be conserved and enhanced. • Develop succession planting plans. • Work with other agencies / businesses to increase roadside remnant vegetation over the medium to longer term.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Reduction in key pest animals and weeds Greater community stewardship of natural resources	4. Manage pest animals and weeds through collaborative initiatives and activities	• Work with the Landscape Board and State Government to support the control of pest animals and weeds. • Work with the Landscape Board to support neighbourhood-based programs to manage pest animals and weeds across properties / sub regions with a collective of landholders. • Create opportunities for farmers to share learnings and innovation / best practice. • Organise farm visits or demonstration days showcasing successful outcomes.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Increase in local stakeholders' knowledge and engagement with natural capital, and carbon markets	5. Increase local understanding of natural capital biodiversity and carbon markets	• Work with the Landscape Board to raise community awareness of carbon, natural capital and biodiversity metrics and markets. • Support the development of businesses around biodiversity conservation, sustainable tourism, eco-friendly products, or emissions management projects.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate

G4: COMMUNITIES ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The goal is to prepare the district for the impacts of climate variability by promoting urban greening and cooling, designing energy efficient infrastructure, integrating water storage into the landscape and enhancing local food production and green community spaces through urban agriculture.

Measures Of Success	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	LAP Role
Increased urban green cover Improved urban thermal comfort Enhanced water retention in the landscape	1. Urban greening and cooling through plants and parks	• Invest in 'green' spaces and urban cooling features such as parks, and shaded walkways in new developments and public spaces to improve liveability. • Promote informed selection of plant species that are resilient to anticipated climate changes and local conditions. • Encourage the use of permeable materials in streetscapes to reduce urban heat islands, improve water infiltration and support sustainable water management. • Support the development of environmentally positive infrastructure that aligns with the Tatiara district's unique needs and promotes Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD).	Connector / Broker, Partner and Doer
Increased energy efficiency and reduction in emissions Improved capacity to withstand extreme weather	2. Design and build energy efficient infrastructure across the district.	• Promote energy-efficient building codes and standards that incorporate passive design, renewable energy solutions, and smart technology. • Promote the retrofit of existing buildings with energy-efficient systems, water capture technologies, insulation improvements and other sustainable upgrades.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Advocate
Reduction in food and waste miles Increase in local food production The establishment of new green community spaces	3. Increase local food production, reduce food miles, and create green community spaces through urban agriculture.	• Introduce incentives or support programs for residents to convert their front yards or backyards into edible gardens. • Partner with local schools and community groups to create educational programs on gardening, food sustainability, and climate resilience. • Organise 'green' festivals or farmers' markets to promote local produce and connect community members with sustainable food systems.	Connector / Broker, Partner and Doer

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Appendix

Measures of Success (MoS)

1. Enhanced water retention in the landscape
2. Enhanced water security options
3. Expansion or improved health of habitat conservation areas
4. Greater community stewardship of natural resources
5. Optimal agricultural productivity
6. Improved capacity to withstand extreme weather
7. Improved connectivity between remnant vegetation
8. Improved soil health
9. Improved understanding of Tatiara's water resources
10. Improved water management
11. Increase in local stakeholders' knowledge of natural capital, and emissions management and biodiversity
12. Increase in the community's valuing of water resources and participation in sustainable practises
13. Increased adoption of water efficient practises, improving agricultural water use and resilience
14. Increased business confidence
15. Increased energy efficiency and emissions management
16. Increased hectares (ha) of land revegetated
17. Increased hectares (ha) of native vegetation protected and managed
18. Increased recognition of and investment in native vegetation
19. Increased retention of water in the landscape
20. Increased urban 'green' cover
21. Reduction in proliferation of pest animal and weed species
22. Stronger business confidence
23. Stronger community decision making