

## Agenda Report for Noting Meeting Date: 22 July 2021

<b>Item Name</b>	SPC Communications & Engagement (C&E)
<b>Presenters</b>	Megha Abraham
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	Noting – Monthly Report on C&E activity
<b>Item Number</b>	5.5
<b>Confidentiality</b>	Not Confidential (Release Immediately)
<b>Related Decisions</b>	N/A

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission resolves to:

1. Approve the designation of this item as Not Confidential (Release Immediately).
2. Note the Communication and Engagement report as read.

### Background

This report provides an overview of the current work program of the Commission's C&E team, highlighting major communications and engagement activity conducted since 24 June 2021, as well as upcoming opportunities and issues.

#### *Commission LinkedIn*

As of 5 July, the Commission has **882 followers, an increase of 5 followers**. The SPC's LinkedIn profile is its only digital engagement channel and is an important platform to actively engage with its targeted / relevant audience. There has been a steady climb in subscribers compared to last year, creating more opportunities to showcase / highlight the SPC activities.

A couple of South Australian planning and development organisations / groups have started to tag the SPC on LinkedIn highlighting projects and initiatives of interest to the community state-wide. Responding to and engaging with these and other related organisations within the planning and development space (especially with Australia) would help us to sustainably grow and maintain SPC's engagement online.

#### *Commission Events*

No events have been flagged for July 2021. The SPC EFPA Review Public Hearing is tentatively scheduled to be held in early August 2021 (Date TBC). The 2021 calendar of SPC Events is at **Attachment 1**.

## Communications Activity

Key Element	Status
EFPA Review	The last community information session was held on 5 July 2021 (4 – 6 pm) at Mallala. The responses and related engagement data will then be reviewed with the strategic planning team to be collated into a report.
July Planning Ahead newsletter	The July issue of Planning Ahead will now be published on 12 or 13 July (TBC) to accommodate an article on new portal updates in relation to Code Amendments (CA). This includes a new dedicated section for CA related content and a digital smart form to collate feedback / submissions.

**Media:** The following media items appeared during the reporting period

Key Element	Status
Advertiser – re: McLaren Vale	<p>On 30/06/2021 the Advertiser requested a response from the Attorney-General and the SPC in relation to MP Leon Bignell's <a href="#">Facebook post</a> (dated 29 June 2021) that claimed the state government is trying to rezone land in the McLaren Vale Character Preservation District so that developers can put in housing.</p> <p>The media response outlined details on how the SPC is investigating the merits of requests to amend the boundaries of the CPD for eight specific locations—in parallel to the EFPA review—which was recommended by the <i>Review of the Character Preservation (Barossa Valley) Act 2012 and Character Preservation (McLaren Vale) Act 2012 Review Outcomes Report</i> – released by the former Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure in 2018.</p> <p>A copy of the article, published on 5 July 2021 is at <b>Attachment 2</b>.</p>
ABC Radio Interview with SPC Chair on <i>Country Hour</i> on 2 July 2021.	The SPC Chair was interviewed on ABC SA's Country Hour program. She addressed questions re: EFPA review and the legislation protecting agricultural lands surrounding metropolitan Adelaide. A precis of the radio interview is at <b>Attachment 3</b> .

Attachments:

1. SPC Events Calendar #16621574
2. 210705\_Advertiser\_McLarenValeCPDConcerns #17328291
3. 210502\_SPC Chair\_Radio Interview Precis #17328305

Prepared by: Megha Abraham

Endorsed by: Anita Allen

Date: 07 July 2021



# 2021 MONTHLY CALENDAR

APRIL											
			Thursday 1	Friday 2	Sat/Sun	Monday 5	Tuesday 6	Wednesday 7	Thursday 8	Friday 9	Sat/Sun
			SPC Meeting	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>		<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>		Aldinga DPA public hearing		Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update	
Monday 12	Tuesday 13	Wednesday 14	Thursday 15	Friday 16	Sat/Sun	Monday 19	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21	Thursday 22	Friday 23	Sat/Sun
			SPC Meeting to be held in Mount Barker including tour of Mt Barker & Council presentation	Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update						Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update	
Monday 26	Tuesday 27	Wednesday 28	Thursday 29	Friday 30	Sat/Sun						
<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b>			SPC Meeting	Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update  MLG Meeting – Helen Dyer & Craig Holden							

MAY											
						Monday 3	Tuesday 4	Wednesday 5	Thursday 6	Friday 7	Sat/Sun
										Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update	
Monday 10	Tuesday 11	Wednesday 12	Thursday 13	Friday 14	Sat/Sun	Monday 17	Tuesday 18	Wednesday 19	Thursday 20	Friday 21	Sat/Sun
		Premier's Climate Change Council – AA Presenting	SPC Meeting	Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update			AIUS Living SA Webinar – Helen Dyer speaker	PIA 'On the Couch – Minister & Craig Holden presenting, Hilton Hotel		Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update	
Monday 24	Tuesday 25	Wednesday 26	Thursday 27	Friday 28	Sat/Sun	Monday 31					
PIA Congress	PIA Congress – Helen Dyer – Panel member	PIA Congress	PIA Congress SPC Meeting	PIA Congress – Helen Dyer - address closing function Astor Hotel  Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update							



# 2021 MONTHLY CALENDAR

JULY											
			Thursday 1	Friday 2	Sat/Sun	Monday 5	Tuesday 6	Wednesday 7	Thursday 8	Friday 9	Sat/Sun
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update						Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update	
Monday 12	Tuesday 13	Wednesday 14	Thursday 15	Friday 16	Sat/Sun	Monday 19	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21	Thursday 22	Friday 23	Sat/Sun
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update						Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update	
Monday 26	Tuesday 27	Wednesday 28	Thursday 29	Friday 30	Sat/Sun						
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof update							

AUGUST											
					Sat/Sun	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 4	Thursday 5	Friday 6	Sat/Sun
										Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update	
Monday 9	Tuesday 10	Wednesday 11	Thursday 12	Friday 13	Sat/Sun	Monday 16	Tuesday 17	Wednesday 18	Thursday 19	Friday 20	Sat/Sun
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update						Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update	
Monday 23	Tuesday 24	Wednesday 25	Thursday 26	Friday 27	Sat/Sun	Monday 30	Tuesday 31				
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update							

# 2021 MONTHLY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER											
					Sat/Sun			Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3	Sat/Sun
										Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update	
Monday 6	Tuesday 7	Wednesday 8	Thursday 9	Friday 10	Sat/Sun	Monday 13	Tuesday 14	Wednesday 15	Thursday 16	Friday 17	Sat/Sun
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update						Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update	
Monday 20	Tuesday 21	Wednesday 22	Thursday 23	Friday 24	Sat/Sun	Monday 27	Tuesday 28	Wednesday 29	Thursday 30		Sat/Sun
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update							

OCTOBER											
				Friday 1	Sat/Sun	Monday 4	Tuesday 5	Wednesday 6	Thursday 7	Friday 8	Sat/Sun
										Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update	
Monday 11	Tuesday 12	Wednesday 13	Thursday 14	Friday 15	Sat/Sun	Monday 18	Tuesday 19	Wednesday 20	Thursday 21	Friday 22	Sat/Sun
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update						Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update	
Monday 25	Tuesday 26	Wednesday 27	Thursday 28	Friday 29	Sat/Sun						
				Weekly Council update Weekly Acc. Prof Update							





# Fears for Vale farmland

ELIZABETH HENSON

McLAREN Vale residents fear a State Planning Commission review of character preservation zones could lead to prime agricultural land in their town being turned into housing developments.

Mawson MP Leon Bignell says locals are worried such a move will cripple the popular food and wine region's \$850m a year tourism industry and destroy its amenity.

The commission is currently undertaking a statutory review of the state's Environment and Food Production Areas, introduced to safeguard vital agricultural land from urban encroachment.

As part of this audit, the commission is also assessing eight Character Preservation Districts, including McLaren Vale. CPD legislation protects the rural amenity, character and scenic vistas of specified tourism areas by ensuring any future development does not detract from dominant land uses.

The commission itself is not able to alter CPD boundaries so any recommendations it makes in relation to these will need to be approved by state parliament before they can take effect.

The review has been released for public consultation.

Mr Bignell said residents were concerned the assessment was the first step towards changing the CPD boundaries around McLaren Vale, which would pave the way for developers to seek to rezone large parcels of agricultural land off Aldersey St and turn them into housing estates.

"What we've seen from most developers in Adelaide is that they get greenfield sites and cover them in low-quality s--t housing," he said. "We've got nowhere to grow food if we don't start protecting it."

He is holding a public meeting to discuss the review on Wednesday at 6pm in the Tatchilla Lutheran College gym. RSVPs are essential due to Covid restrictions.

Dudley Brown, who owns Inkwell Wines and boutique accommodation Hotel California Road, said it would be "terrible" if the parcels of land were subdivided for housing.

"It would be bad for tourism and it would be bad for investment because people would stop investing," he said.

An planning commission spokeswoman said it was investigating the merits of requests to amend the boundaries of the CPD of eight locations, in line with a recommendation from a 2018 review. She said the commission had "not yet formed a view on the merits or otherwise" of the requests.

Planning Minister Vickie Chapman said the latest review had been "instigated by laws passed by the previous government and any proposed reforms will require the parliament's approval".

## **Radio Precis: SPC Chair Interview with ABC Radio Country Hour**

**Helen Dyer, Chair, State Planning Commission** (ABC NORTH & WEST 12.33-12.40)

Review of legislation protecting agricultural lands surrounding metropolitan Adelaide

*(Hough: From Yankalilla in the south to Balaclava in the north and out to Murray Bridge in the east, the legislation protecting agricultural lands surrounding metropolitan Adelaide from urban sprawl are under review. The Environment and Food Production Areas, or the EFPAs, were introduced in 2017 to protect those agricultural lands from surrounding metropolitan Adelaide and from urban encroachment ... by law every five years these areas are looked at and now public consultations are underway ... Helen Dyer ... why is your office reviewing the Environment and Food Production Areas that surround Adelaide?) ...*

Under the legislation every five years we have to review the environment protection area ... I might just make an observation, in the introduction it was mentioned that this area extends from the Barossa right down to Yankalilla and it does, but there are ... two components to it ... there's the EFPA, but there is also the Character Preservation Districts, and so some of those areas are actually covered by character protection districts, they are around the Barossa and the McLaren Vale and they're controlled under their own separate piece of legislation.

*(Hough: This legislation wouldn't affect this review, wouldn't actually even have anything to do with these character preservation districts?)*

So there's a link between the two pieces of legislation such that if a piece of land was taken out of the character preservation district it automatically becomes part of the EFPA, but the way it works is the Commission has the responsibility for reviewing the environment protection area, but it doesn't have responsibility for changing the character preservation districts, which requires resolutions of both Houses of Parliament.

At the moment the Environment and Food Protection Area review that we are doing has two tests under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act of 2016, the first test that we have to satisfy to lose that EFPA boundary would be that there is not an adequate supply of land in the rest of Adelaide for a period of 15 years, so we have had a look and turned our mind to that question and there is a statement of position that is available on the website for people to have a look at.

That statement position has been informed by growth projections prepared by the Government and the Department and we have formed the view that in fact there is an adequate supply of land for the next 15 years ... the second test under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act then is, are there any anomalies ... when these plans were drawn up, for example, did someone put the line in the wrong place and there's a couple of houses that are included that shouldn't have been ... on the edge of the township, for example, or something like that ... that's really what we are seeking community feedback on them at the moment, whether they perceive there are any anomalies and then we will obviously consider that and see whether there is a need to do anything about it.

There was also a review of the character preservation districts for the Barossa and McLaren Vale that was undertaken under those pieces of legislation by the Department in 2018 ... as the result of that I think there were eight submissions made requesting, or

suggesting that there were pieces of land in that that were inappropriate for whatever reason. Because ... the [unclear] land was not in the character preservation district but had been, it would become part of the Environment and Food Protection Area. The review of the character preservation districts suggested that the Commission look at those areas, so we would be looking primarily to understand whether those little bits are anomalies because we've already formed the view that there is an adequate supply of land at the moment.

If we were to form the view that there are anomalies in the EFPA area we could gazette that and then that would be provided to the Parliament and either House of Parliament could disallow it. If we were to ... form the view that there was an anomaly in the character preservation district we would have to inform the Minister and it would then be a question for the Minister as to whether she was prepared to take an amendment to the character preservation districts legislation to the Parliament because that one is actually enshrined in the legislation itself ... that's a lot of information.

*(Hough: ... so basically ... at the moment under the ... statement of position ... there is sufficient land so there's not really going to be any changes proposed as part of this review to the current Agricultural Land Protections there, but you are looking at some of the anomalies that are coming up in the character preservation districts?)*

Ah, we're looking at anomalies primarily in the Environment and Food Protection Area, the only element of the character preservation districts that we are looking at is we are just looking to see whether these eight areas that were raised before could be considered anomalous ... anomalous is quite different to somebody wanting their land rezoned, for example, that would be a quite a different question over which the Commission doesn't have ... the scope ...

*(Hough: ... you've done some consultation sessions, what has the feedback been?)* Ooh, you've caught me on the hop, I'm not 100% sure what the feedback has been at this stage, I personally haven't actually been able to attend a consultation session to date, but we do have ... six of them dotted around the area over the coming weeks.

*(Hough: Have you fielded any concerns ... from people about this review?)* I've certainly seen that there has been some misunderstanding ... people are just concerned that there might be wholesale change ... we've formally made that position clear that we believe there is an adequate supply so there will not be wholesale change.

*(Hough: ... if people did want to find out more information or get involved in this consultation where can they go?)* ... go onto the Commission's website, or Planning SA, just google EFPA, the documentation should easily come up for people to find it. The councils would also have information ... about it. *(Hough: ... we'll keep following it as it unfolds, thanks so much ...)* ... people are invited to put submissions in, we really do want to hear from people ... *(Hough: ... thank you ...)*