RIVERINA AND MURRAY JOINT ORGANISATION (RAMJO) 2018-2022

Statement of Strategic Regional Priorities



Our Vision: A thriving region abundant in sustainable communities

Our Strategic Regional Priorities







Improve Transport Connectivity for Freight and People



Improve Digital Connectivity



Better Match Health Services to our Changing Needs



Boost Industry, Workforce and Jobs

Our 3 Key Actions

1. Establish sub-committees → 2. Work with stakeholders to complete comprehensive assessments → 3. Develop Strategies and I&R Plans

Key Actions in the Strategies and Plans to include:

- Advocate and work with governments for long term infrastructure projects to address water security for the region (both for farming and urban).
- Work with the agricultural industry to;
- improve on-farm water management practices and water trading, and
- enable improved productivity through diversification, innovation and reduced reliance on high water use crops.
- Ensure our communities are well informed about water related policies.
- Advocate for local government representation at the Murray Darling Basin Authority Board level.

- Advocate for improved energy solutions such as lower energy prices, subsidies and other incentives for renewable energy projects, research into new technologies and micro hydro, and to set a price for solar development contributions to local councils.
- Advocate and work with governments and energy providers for long term infrastructure projects to address energy security for the region.
- Work with other Joint Organisations and government to explore waste to energy opportunities.

- Advocate and work with governments and transport providers to fund and deliver on agreed infrastructure projects to address transport connectivity for the region.
- Work with the Cross-Border Commissioners to address relevant freight and public transport issues e.g. licencing, insurances, feeds, permits, discounts, ticketing etc.
- Advocate and work with governments and digital communication service providers to fund and deliver on agreed infrastructure and service projects to address digital connectivity needs for the region.
- Identify opportunities for the use of new and SMART technologies to support economic growth across the region.
- Ensure our communities are well informed about the transition from ADSL to NBN only services.

- Establish a health alliance across all three levels of government to support planning and action on Health Service provision.
- Address such issues as. demand and supply analysis, access gaps, patient transport, workforce training/ recruitment/incentives, prevention strategies and ageing in place.
- Advocate and work with governments to fund and deliver on agreed health infrastructure projects for the region e.g. telehealth, aged care facilities, fit for purpose operating theatres etc.

- Develop a regional industry/ business prospectus and promote this nationally / internationally.
- Promote and support industry diversification and innovation
- Work with Councils and NSW Planning to reduce barriers to industry growth.
- Develop and implement housing strategies in industrial growth areas.
- Work with training providers to develop training pathways to address workforce gaps.
- Work with the RDAs to support skilled migration
- Advocate and support the decentralisation of government agencies to the RAMJO region.

Strengthen Our Capacity to Act

Key actions

- Conduct a needs assessment and modelling to determine the cost benefits and priorities for the RAMJO to establish a business unit to provide brokerage services in skill shortage areas and areas of duplication e.g.
- Engineering, planning, surveying, certification
- Internal auditing, back of house services
- Library services
- Visitor information services

- Trial a collective tendering / procurement process
- Work with member councils, RDA (Murray and Riverina), OLG and training providers to develop
 a regional council workforce development strategy to address skills shortages. Including such
 programs as Grow Your Own (traineeships etc), skilled migration programs and metropolitan council
 partnerships.
- Facilitate resource, systems and skills sharing across the member councils particularly to support delivery of the six priority pillars, including potential for decentralised provision of services at more remote councils.