



# Annual Report on Outcomes (Abridged)

2020 to 2021

RDA Logan & Redlands Inc

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The Logan and Redlands Region is strategically positioned within the growth corridor for South East Queensland and is ripe for development. It has substantial economic capacity in the areas of Health Care and Social Assistance; Advanced Manufacturing; Infrastructure; Transport, Logistics and Warehousing; Education and Training; Professional Services; Tourism; and Research. The opportunity exists to translate this capacity into sustainable economic growth.

Reflecting this the RDA advocates the SEQ Region is at the centre of growth potential with:

1. An under development 25+ year SEQ City Deal;
2. An 11 year horizon until a SEQ Olympic (and Paralympic) Games;
3. A remaining 4 year completion timeline for the first stage operationalising of Inland Rail; and
4. Full implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the emerging enhancements to the wider Health Care and Social Assistance Industry.

However, the Region's ambitions are blunted as it has not received sufficient infrastructure investment for achieving this goal particularly when the projected population growth is factored in. The recently released *2021 Intergenerational Report : Australia over the next 40 years* (June 2021) while moderating expectations around population growth still expects growth. The Report noted:

Australia's population is projected to grow faster than most other developed countries and reach 38.8 million in 2060-61.

In June 2020, in the RDA's quarterly report to the Region, the Chair noted pressure for growth and sustainability in the Region had increased with the national call to cushion the impacts of COVID-19, including providing the necessary support so people could get through the difficult times ahead with a focus on small and medium sized businesses, sole traders and income support for those most directly impacted by the economic downturn.

In acknowledging the focus of the country was on COVID-19, the RDA maintained its efforts to ensure the voice of the Logan and Redlands Region was heard reflecting the RDA's determined corporate goal to ensure the Region will be at the centre of economic and employment growth for South East Queensland, statewide Queensland and Australia wide.

This commitment was driven through a process which positions the RDA well to continue its strategic leadership for the economic development and social cohesion for the Region.

In November 2018 the RDA held a half day, facilitated, off-site strategic meeting at which the Logan City Council and the Redland City Council presented on their respective economic development strategies, priorities and challenges, followed by a discussion between the RDA Committee and the Council representatives on working together.

The presentations had common focus areas such as tourism, health and social, education and training, transport and logistics and for Logan, advanced manufacturing. Both Councils were understandably concerned with their own areas and the RDA concluded that a legitimate role for it was to be the organisation in the middle, blending both into the larger common area.

Emerging areas of focus included:

- Connectivity (in its broader sense including technical connectivity, transport, networks and government);
- Advocacy and lobbying connected to levels of government; and
- Specific areas of attention (such as the Inland Rail and the National Disability Insurance Scheme enabling opportunities).

The RDA's 2019 to 2020 Annual Business Plan was developed through expanded networks against the outcomes from the November 2018 strategic meeting. An abridged version of the Plan was released in September 2019 and included on the RDA website. It was directly sent to Federal and State Ministers whose portfolios indicate responsibility for any aspect of the Plan, Logan and Redland City Councils, all Federal and State Members of Parliament whose electorates impact on the Logan and Redlands Region and business and community organisations.

Under this Plan, the RDA undertook an extensive series of consultations with local business organisations, businesses, community organisations and across all levels of government.

The outcome was the October 2020 release of *Logan and Redlands: The Centre of Economic and Employment Growth for Queensland* (available at <https://rdaloganandredlands.org.au/latest-news/160-rda-logan-redlands-releases-position-paper-for-region>).

The document was developed through extensive consultation including with the three levels of Government, industry organisations, businesses and community organisations. Socialising of concepts during the development phase of the document was met with a mixed response ranging from enthusiasm and optimistic support through to rejection. This gives some comfort that the issues identified have been considered and provoked critical thinking.

Building on the continuation of its funding agreement with the Commonwealth and the refreshed Regional Development Australia Charter, RDA Logan & Redlands held a strategic meeting on 27 January 2021.

The key areas of focus from the strategic meeting are aligned to the RDA strategic document *Logan and Redlands: The Centre of Economic and Employment Growth for Queensland* which is confirmed as the base from which the identification of specific issues/activities will occur and from which broad and specific messaging will be mined.

Identified immediate areas for development include:

- Infrastructure (hard, soft and public transport; and social);
- Research;
- Skills Audit against expected industry profile;
- Workforce skills development capacity;
- Analysis of and opportunities for investment;
- Industry 4.0; and
- Internal SEQ migration.

The meeting also identified the work of the RDA should provide the evidence through which the RDA's advocacy role is achieved and through which it achieves the 4 streams of the refreshed RDA Charter.

The meeting discussed the requirement that by 30 June 2021, the RDA is to determine whether there is a recognised, existing and up to date strategic plan in place which, for the most part, meets the needs of the Region. If the Region does not have an appropriate strategic plan in place, nor plans to develop one, the RDA should develop a methodology for working with stakeholders to develop a new strategic plan.

In undertaking its work, the RDA regularly meets with key stakeholders to discuss issues relevant to the Region, as they relate to the RDA's strategic document and the RDA's roles under the Regional Development Australia Charter.

The alignment of the RDA strategic plan and the directions being developed by key stakeholders has led to the RDA being formally included in a number of organisations and activities including the following:

- Sponsorship of and participation at the Recovery Redlands Coast Business and Jobs Expo;
- Membership of the Redlands Regional Jobs Committee (RJC) which is led by the Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce and is supported and funded by the Queensland Government and which:
  - Created the initiative 'Champion Redlands Coast' (CRC) to help shape a bright future for the Redlands Coast;
  - Undertook comprehensive Economic Research to understand the current Redlands Economy and where the future Economic Opportunities are, projects and the jobs pipeline;
  - Launched Redlands Coast Jobs allowing employers to find, attract and support local skilled employees;
  - Hosted several successful RJC & CRC events bringing key industry and government representatives together to help shape a collaborative bright future for the Redlands; and
  - Undertook a Youth Career Aspirations Survey to capture an understanding of what career path Redlands Youth are interested in pursuing;
- Participation in RJC and CRC hosted Futures Forums;
- Membership of Logan City Council Disaster Management Program;
- Membership of Redlands Coast COVID-19 Financial and Economic Recovery Group;
- Participant at Logan Council/Chambers of Commerce Presidents bi-monthly meetings; and
- Redland City Council Economic Recovery Sub-Group.

In addition, communications are maintained with:

- The Queensland Department of Employment, Small Business and Training;
- The Queensland Department of Education;
- The Queensland Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water;
- The Queensland Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport;
- The Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning;
- The Regional Business Chambers (Beenleigh Yatala Chamber; Logan Chamber; Logan Regional Chamber; Redlands Coast Chamber; Southern Moreton Bay Islands Chamber; and Straddie Chamber);
- The Logan and the Redland City Councils;
- The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications;

- The Commonwealth Department of Education, Skills and Employment;
- Infrastructure Australia;
- The Australian Taxation Office; and
- Safe Work Australia.

Throughout the pandemic these organisations have provided information and advice on the impacts of the pandemic on the Logan and Redlands Region. They have been critical sources of intelligence and have represented their constituents' needs through participation on key regional groups in partnership with governments at all levels.

South East Queensland and adjacent areas are served by several Regional Development Australia Committees including:

- Brisbane;
- Darling Downs and South West Queensland;
- Gold Coast;
- Ipswich and West Moreton;
- Logan and Redlands;
- Moreton Bay;
- Northern Rivers;
- Sunshine Coast; and
- Wide Bay Burnett.

These RDAs communicate regularly to discuss issues across the South East Queensland Region with a focus on the COVID-19 impacts.

The RDA participates in the Region's:

- Manufacturers' Networking Hub; and
- Defence Electronics Multipliers Hub.

In July 2020, the RDA:

- participated in the RDA teleconference meetings with the Commonwealth on feedback about the impacts of COVID-19 on 1, 8, 15 and 22 July 2020;
- participated as a member at Logan City Council Economic Recovery Sub Group meetings on 3, 10, 17 and 31 July 2020;
- participated in South East Queensland RDAs' video conference meetings on 9, 16, 23 and 30 July 2020;
- teleconferenced with Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC);
- participated in Rebuilding Stronger Regions post COVID 19 through Education and Commerce via RED Toolbox, ED Toolbox and ED Unreal World webinar;
- met with SMBI (Southern Moreton Bay Island) Little Bus company;
- participated in Inland Rail and Opportunities in Regional Infrastructure webinar;
- met with Inland Rail;
- met with Minjerribah Futures;
- met with Business Models Incorporated;
- participated in a 2 day RDA event in Toowoomba including site visits (including Wellcamp Airport and Logistics Centre and meeting of SEQ RDA Alliance);
- attended Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce breakfast;

- met Karen Williams, Mayor, Redland City Council;
- met Darren Power, Mayor, Logan City Council;
- participated as a member of the Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce Jobs Committee;
- participated in Indonesia Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA): Opportunities for Australian Exporters webinar;
- met with Cat Cottage Capalaba;
- engaged in discussions on Innovation Research;
- teleconferenced with Minjerribah Transport working group; and
- met The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor of Brisbane and Chair of the Council of Mayors of SEQ, Cr Adrian Schrunner.

In August 2020, the RDA:

- participated in the RDA teleconference meetings with the Commonwealth on feedback about the impacts of COVID-19 on 5, 19 and 26 August 2020;
- participated as a member at Logan City Council Economic Recovery Sub Group meetings on 13 and 28 August 2020;
- participated in South East Queensland RDAs' video conference meetings on 6, 13, 20 and 27 August 2020;
- participated in a videoconference on Innovation in the Redlands and more broadly (ARIP review);
- participated in town hall teleconference session with the Minister for Regional Telecommunications and Local Government, the Hon Mark Coulton MP;
- presented Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce award judging webinar;
- met with RPS | Australia Asia Pacific to provide input into the Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce project pipeline survey;
- met with Australia Indonesia Business Council (QLD);
- participated in planning for Webinar on Innovation in Health and Social Care;
- participated in Industry engagement sessions - Redlands Coast Tourism Destination Management Plan 2021-2026;
- participated in Health Commons Program;
- participated in The UK FTA: Opportunities for Australia webinar;
- participated on Age-Friendly Project Interest Group; and
- participated in town hall teleconference session on Decentralisation with the Hon Andrew Gee MP, Minister for Decentralisation and Regional Education.

In September 2020, the RDA:

- participated in the RDA teleconference meetings with the Commonwealth on feedback about the impacts of COVID-19 on 9 and 23 September 2020;
- participated as a member at Logan City Council Economic Recovery Sub Group meetings on 11 and 25 September 2020;
- participated in South East Queensland RDAs' video conference meetings on 10, 17 and 24 September 2020;
- participated on Redland City Councils Financial and Economic Recovery Taskforce;
- facilitated NDIS project update and brainstorming session with key stakeholders;
- facilitated meeting with key stakeholders on regional migration;

- attended Yarrabilba State School bus presentation by Logan Regional Chamber of Commerce;
- participated in Department of State Development, Tourism and Innovation's How to Thrive in Uncertain Times webinar;
- participated in national RDA webinar on RDAs with More Jobs than People;
- commenced discussion with Logan City Council on the Australian Government's National Aviation Policy Issues Paper released for industry and broader stakeholder consultation;
- participate in FTA Digital Seminar: Using FTAs to unlock multi-market opportunities in ASEAN;
- participated in Regional Australia Institute's Regionalisation of our nation webinar; and
- met with NDIS.

In October 2020, the RDA:

- undertook an extensive field trip around the Logan and Redlands region;
- attended the Official launch of Championing Redlands Coast;
- participated in the Innovation in Aged and Social Care webinar;
- participated in South East Queensland RDAs' video conference meeting on 8 October 2020;
- participated in RDA Southern Inland and the Regional Australia Institute for the "Building Deeper Connections with Regional Australia institute" webinar;
- participated in RDA Teleconference - 2020-21 Budget Initiatives chaired by Minister Marino;
- participated as a judge for the Redlands Business and Retail Awards;
- met with Australia Indonesia Business Council (QLD);
- met with The Ageing Revolution;
- convened workshop for South East Queensland RDAs with presenters including Walker Group and South East Queensland Council of Mayors;
- auspiced meeting with RDA Darling Downs and South West on secondary migration activity;
- contributed to Logan Economic Development Strategy - Jimboomba/ Flagstone focus group meeting;
- participated in Announcement of RDA Future Arrangements webinar chaired by Minister Marino;
- attended 2020 Queensland Major Projects Pipeline Report launch;
- participated in Redland City Council - Corporate Plan Engagement Session; and
- met with Redland Disability Network.

In November 2020, the RDA:

- participated in national webinar on RDA Future Arrangements;
- participated in Redland City Council Financial and Economic Recovery Taskforce meeting;
- attended Inaugural Championing Redlands Coast Business Leaders Boardroom Forum;
- participated in South East Queensland RDAs' video conference meetings on 12 and 26 November 2020;
- participated in RDA Town Hall - Decentralisation teleconference with Hon Andrew Gee MP, Minister for Decentralisation and Regional Education;
- participated in Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) Round 5 Update webinar;
- participated in Community Services Gateway to Industry Schools Project: Employers webinar;



- attended Logan Business Expo;
- attended Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce – Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries Research Site Tour;
- participated in Redlands Small Business Expo;
- participated in Industry 4.0 Business & Investment Project Overview;
- participated in Redland Business and Retail Awards Annual Presentation;
- participated in Building a Resilient Food Ecosystem for the Logan Growth Corridor: Online Workshop;
- participated in the RDA teleconference meetings with the Commonwealth on feedback about the impacts of COVID-19 on 25 November 2020;
- met with Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland;
- met with Queensland Department of State Development, Tourism and Innovation; and
- met with a Redland City Council representative, a key employer and a representative organisation from Southern Moreton Bay Islands in relation to Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) Round 5 opportunities.

In December 2020, the RDA:

- met with Logan Regional Chamber of Commerce;
- participated as a presenter at South East Region Department of Employment, Small Business and Training Reference Group meeting;
- participated in South East Queensland RDAs' video conference meetings on 10 and 17 December 2020;
- participated in Southern Moreton Bay Islands Hub meeting;
- attended Queensland Government budget information session presented by the Hon Cameron Dick - Queensland Treasurer, Minister for Investment, and State Member for Woodridge; and
- participated in secondary migration activity planning session with RDA Darling Downs and South West.

In January 2021, the RDA:

- met with the North Stradbroke Island Aboriginal & Islanders Housing Co-operative Society Ltd in relation to Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) Round 5 opportunities;
- participated in a Department of Small Business and Training teleconference;
- met with STAR Community Services in relation to Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) Round 5 opportunities; and
- held its Strategic Meeting.

In February 2021, the RDA:

- met with Redland City Council officials to work through Building Better Regions Fund (Round 5) opportunities;
- participated in the meeting of South East Queensland Regional Development Australia Committees covering:
  - Brisbane;
  - Darling Downs and South West Queensland;
  - Gold Coast;
  - Ipswich and West Moreton;
  - Logan and Redlands;

- Moreton Bay;
- Sunshine Coast; and
- Wide Bay Burnett;
- participated in the Redlands Coast Small Business Roadshow;
- participated at meetings as a member of the Inland Rail Kagaru to Acacia Ridge and Bromelton Community Consultative Committee;
- met with the Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning;
- undertook discussion with regional organisations on Building Better Regions Fund (Round 5) opportunities including with:
  - Macleay Island Bowls Club;
  - Southern Moreton Bay Islands Chamber of Commerce;
  - Russell Island Progress Association;
  - Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce; and
  - North Stradbroke Island Chamber of Commerce;
- participated at the Championing Redlands Coast Futures Forum;
- participated in forums addressing the regional opportunities from the change of focus of Capital City Regional Development Australia Committees;
- participated in the Redland City Council’s Financial and Economic Recovery Taskforce;
- met with Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce on Business Awards Judging Processes; and
- met with Regional Development Australia Committees and community organisations to take forward supporting families relocating across Southern Queensland regions for work.

In March 2021, the RDA:

- met with the President, Logan Chamber of Commerce;
- met with Logan City Council officials;
- met with Redland City Council officials;
- participated in the RDA National Forum 2021 Reference Group; and
- met with local businesses to provide operational guidance.

In April 2021, the RDA:

- participated in the RDA National Forum - Reference Group;
- participated at the Logan Chamber Presidents and Council meeting;
- met with Redland City Council Project Coordinator, Regional Skills Investment Strategy;
- participated in the Redlands Coast Business Leaders Boardroom;
- participated in the Australian Infrastructure Plan – Place Based Outcomes Briefing from Infrastructure Australia;
- participated in Housing shortages affecting regional development webinar hosted by the Commonwealth Government;
- participated in Championing Redlands Coast - co-design leaders workshop; and
- met with Lendlease on economic and workforce development including Shoreline and Yarrabilba Project Briefings.

In May 2021, the RDA:

- participated in Regional Australia Institute's pre-budget address by Deputy Prime Minister the Hon. Michael McCormack;
- participated in Deloitte's post Federal Budget briefing;
- participated at QTalent Workshop conducted by Urbis on behalf of Study Queensland as part of its strategic analysis of Queensland's talent ecosystem;
- sponsored and participated in CLICK! Digital Solutions event in the Redlands;
- participated in Queensland Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning workshop to explore how infrastructure can support the key priorities in our region;
- sponsored and participated in the Logan Small Business Expo;
- participated in Infrastructure Australia workshop - Regional Strengths and Infrastructure Gaps - Logan and Redlands;
- participated at the Logan City Council Economic Recovery Sub-Group Meeting; and
- as a member, participated at the Kagaru to Acacia Ridge and Bromelton Community Consultative Committee meeting.

In June 2021, the RDA:

- met with key developer operating in Gold Coast/Logan area;
- sponsored and attended Redlands Coast Careers Expo;
- with RDA Ipswich and West Moreton investigated Employment Facilitator and Support Officer services for the broader region;
- participated in RDA National Forum in Canberra;
- met with several Ministers and relevant senior Commonwealth Government officials on issues affecting the Logan and Redlands Region;
- participated in Chamber of Commerce Presidents meeting with Logan City Council;
- conducted transition meeting between incoming, returned and exiting RDA Members;
- participated in Southern Moreton Bay Islands Ageing in Place working group meeting; and
- participated in meeting with Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce on Redland Coast Business Excellence Awards 2021.

Round 5 of the Building Better Regions Fund was released on 12 January 2021 with a close date of 12 March 2021 comprising \$100 million to support tourism-related infrastructure projects focused on mitigating the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on a region's tourism industry; and \$100 million to support regional remote Australia more broadly, by funding general infrastructure projects and community investment projects.

The RDA commenced potential applicant engagement in November 2020 to generate interest. The RDA provided letters of support for applications from:

- Redlands Coast Chamber of Commerce;
- Southern Moreton Bay Islands Chamber of Commerce;
- North Stradbroke Island Chamber of Commerce; and
- Macleay Island Bowls Club.

Discussion with Logan City Council also occurred. While no letters of support were sought it is understood applications were submitted.

At the time of raising this report the outcomes of Round 5 of the Building Better Regions Fund are not available.

The RDA also provided letters to support:

- the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts designing, developing and delivering the Certificate IV in Cultural Capability Training;
- Logan East Community Centre's (LECNA) application for funding to expand the number of Village Hub projects across Australia under the Department of Social Services Seniors Connected Program;
- the Lendlease Shoreline development's associated Wastewater Treatment Plant;
- the Aged Care Industry Information Technology Council application for the *Building Digital Capability and Improving Career Pathways for Women in Aged and Community Care* aimed at improving employability whilst also supporting the digital transformation of the aged and community care sector; and
- Rebel Media's Rebel 90.5 and Breeze 92.1 applications to extend signal and license areas to services Logan LGA in its entirety with an adequate indoor signal.

In response to changes brought about by the COVID-19 environment, a dedicated COVID-19 page was introduced to the RDA Logan and Redlands website. It has been maintained throughout this period to include the latest information on COVID-19 developments, particularly as they relate to funding opportunities. Updates to website content have also included direct links to distributed e-Bulletins and Reports to the Region.

Throughout the year the RDA sends email communications directly to subscribers of its database. The content of these communications is varied, but mainly concentrates on regional events, grant rounds and other items of interest to the Region.

The use of Facebook has increased with several postings a week dealing with topics of general interest to the community. Posts relating to Board recruitment performed particularly well

During the period the RDA provided sponsorship to a number of regional events including:

- Logan Small Business Expo;
- Redlands Small Business Expo;
- Logan Business Awards;
- Redlands Coast Business Excellence Awards; and
- Logan East Community Neighbourhood Centre.