

---

## TRANSFORMING THE UPPER SPENCER GULF

### Background – Spencer Gulf Cities

1. A 20 year alliance between Port Pirie, Port Augusta and Whyalla – forum for collaboration and advocacy on issues of strategic importance to the Upper Spencer Gulf.
2. The three cities have strong industrial, cultural, environmental and economic connections and a dual role as a service centre for health, education, retail and specialist services for rural hinterlands.
3. There are 30 regional centres in Australia with a population of over 30,000 – none are in South Australia. The three Upper Spencer Gulf cities have strong community support and capacity to grow.

### Regional Growth – Opportunities and Challenges

4. The Upper Spencer Gulf will be key to South Australia's 3% growth target.
5. Over \$15 billion investment in the region into renewable energy, mining and processing, Defence, value-added agriculture, event and nature-based tourism. Estimated around 9,000 jobs.
6. USG will require close government collaboration around workforce, infrastructure and development planning to ensure flow-on impacts and any unintended consequences are managed and positive benefits are maximised.
7. Considerations include: accessing short-term construction and longer-term permanent workforce, accommodation, development planning processes, rating of major development, managing waste from new developments, loss of environment and landscape values, behaviour management, recreation, community and health services, traffic management, impact on existing sectors such as tourism, defence.
8. Despite strong economic potential, the Port Pirie, Port Augusta and Whyalla communities face ongoing challenges including:
  - Vulnerability to large, single industries subject to global influences
  - Negative external perception of the three cities
  - High unemployment and socio-economic disadvantage
  - Duplication by agencies and lack of coordination across three separate regions
9. To ensure long term sustainability, economic growth and diversification must be underpinned by:
  - Locally supported, industry-relevant tertiary education to grow the local skilled workforce
  - Improvements to civic infrastructure, aesthetics and reputation
  - Protection of key natural assets and landscapes
  - Stronger regional decision making and coordinated, responsive Government
  - Investment and prioritisation of strategic transport infrastructure

**We seek a formal partnership with the South Australian Government and Ministers to work with us to address these issues and achieve our growth potential.**

## Upper Spencer Gulf – Top Five Industries of Employment:

- **Port Augusta** - Correctional and Detention Services (4.6%), Hospitals (4.1%), Primary Education (4.0%), Supermarkets (3.6%), Takeaway Food Services (3.0%)
- **Port Pirie** - Copper, Silver, Lead and Zinc Smelting and Refining (10.1%), Aged Care Services (4.4%), Hospitals (4.2%), Supermarkets (3.5%), Social Assistance Services (3.2%)
- **Whyalla** - Iron Smelting and Steel Manufacturing (12.3%), Iron Ore Mining (7.3%), Hospitals (4.2%), Supermarkets (3.9%), Primary Education (3.4%)

## Upper Spencer Gulf – Data Snapshot:

2016 Census	SA
Total residents	1,676,649
Aboriginal population	2.0%
Unemployment	7.5%
Bachelor level qualifications	18.5%
Current university study	16.2%
Vocational level qualifications	25%
No motor vehicle	7.5%
No internet at home	17%
Homeless rate per 10,000 people	37
SEIFA Index of socio-economic disadvantage (state decile)	
SEIFA Index of education and occupation (state decile)	
<b>Worker Occupations (%)</b>	
Professionals	20.3
Managers	12.6
Clerical and Administrative Workers	13.3
Community and Personal Service Workers	12.0
Technicians and Trades Workers	13.4
Labourers	11.1
Sales Workers	9.6
Machinery Operators and Drivers	6.1
<b>Council Data</b>	
Rate income 2020	
Rateable properties	
Infrastructure Assets	

PORT AUGUSTA	PORT PIRIE	WHYALLA
13,808	17,364	21,828
18.3%	3.6%	4.7%
9.7%	10.7%	12.4%
7.9%	7.1%	8.6%
3.1%	4.3%	5.7%
24%	25%	28%
9.6%	9.5%	12.7%
27%	28%	25%
77	39	40
1	1	1
1	1	1
14.7	13.7	14.7
8.6	10.6	7.6
12.3	10.7	9.8
17.1	13.4	11.8
13.6	14.9	17.9
11.9	12.7	11.4
10.4	11.1	9.4
9.4	11.2	15.0
\$19.9m	\$18.4m	\$21.1m
7,740	10,286	12,034
\$187m	\$258m	\$259m