

Invitation to Comment on the Flinders Island Structure Plan

The Structure Plan for Flinders Island proposes land use strategy to contribute to Council's aim of increasing the population to a sustainable level. Strategy is derived from a process of research, investigations, analysis and the application of expertise in a particular discipline, in this case, regional land use planning and strategic planning.

Strategy is focussed on long term outcomes and maps the way to achieve those outcomes. It has an overarching perspective that integrates a whole of island approach while at the same time considering the detail required for comprehensive analysis. Strategy is not a thought bubble based political expediency or what has been proposed elsewhere, although it is likely that these elements are at some time considered during the process. Strategy is definitely not based on personal opinion, self-interest or favours. Strategy is delivered through due process. Due process means that a set of principles have been applied to decision-making which provide for consistency, transparency and impartiality.

It is hoped that the community will respond to the land use strategy proposed in the Structure Plan with similar consideration by reflecting on a long term view and by suspending narrow self-interest to consider a collective and sustainable island future. That is not to say that submissions will not be welcomed on any aspect of the proposals, merely to request a more complex appraisal as well as what you think may happen in your own back yard.

The Structure Plan is supported by a Table in Appendix 2 which provides more detail of how the strategy could be applied. Essentially the Map 1 in Appendix 1 shows the overall strategy i.e. the different primary production Areas, Blue Rocks precinct and 'other'. 'Other' generally denotes intent to manage some physical aspect(s) of the land. It is not a zone category. It does not preclude development and the Table provides the detail of what sort of development is envisaged. There are also maps in Appendices 1 and 3, referenced in the main document but separated for ease of downloading. Appendix 5 provides a diagram of the process required under the State legislation and shows where the Structure Plan sits. The Executive Summary, Introduction and Background sections of the Structure Plan will provide sufficient detail for understanding the process to date and what is required under the legislation.

This is not a five minute read and not something to cherry pick with attendant risk of piecemeal understanding. Please consider the Discussion Points throughout the document and give feedback on these issues as well as any of your own thoughts. Please read the background information so that you are aware of the constraints of this part of the process and tailor your comments accordingly. Finally, please do not confuse this document or the associated table with a planning scheme. The planning scheme results from the land use strategy but the State Scheme is yet to be declared and the strategy in the Structure Plan needs to be tested through consultation before it can inform the policy framework of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

Thankyou in advance for your participation and your contribution to your own and everyone's island future. Submissions will be received by email to: planner@flinders.tas.gov.au; by mail to "Strategic Planner, 4 Davies St Whitemark 7255" or over the counter at the Council office.

Submissions close Thursday 11 August 2016.