

SHLGA LATEST NEWS



October 2026 Vol. 007

Member Update



KANGAROO
ISLAND
COUNCIL



Productivity with liveability – future housing supply priorities

SHLGA has called for housing, infrastructure and liveability to be planned together as governments work to increase housing supply.

In its submission to the Productivity Commission's Housing Supply Regulation review, SHLGA supports more homes in the right places, backed by timely investment in infrastructure and services.

Importantly, growth must not come at the expense of the lifestyle, character, natural environment and open spaces that make the Southern and Hills region such a desirable place to live and invest.

SHLGA argues that successful housing reform should create well-connected, resilient and liveable communities while retaining the qualities people value about the places they call home.

Find out more about the SHLGA submission [here](#).



Webinar – Regional
Drought Resilience
Update

4 November 2026
1pm – 2pm

Join SHLGA and RDA AHFIO for an update on the Regional Drought Resilience Plan, implementation priorities and emerging initiatives. Participate in a discussion on how councils are strengthening resilience across our region, and where there are opportunities for further collaboration.

ADELAIDE HILLS
FLEURIEU
KANGAROO ISLAND

Regional Drought Resilience Plan

A Framework to Guide Future Effort and Investment
to Support Sustainable Primary Production



Guest Presenter:
Markus Bucy
Regional Drought Resilience Lead, RDA AHFIO



SHaRe

To receive the AHFIO News Bulletin for the webinar
please register by emailing or at:
admin@shlga.sa.gov.au

New Date – Regional Drought Resilience Plan Update Webinar

4 November 2026 | 1–2pm | Online

Hear from Regional Drought Resilience Lead, Markus Bucy, about the implementation priorities and emerging opportunities. Contribute your ideas to regional collaboration initiatives.

To register, email admin@shlga.sa.gov.au.

SHLGA calls for better access to regional childcare

SHLGA has called for a more flexible, place-based approach to improving childcare access across regional communities.

Our submission to the Senate Inquiry into early childhood education and care highlights significant differences across the Southern and Hills region, with four local areas identified as “childcare deserts”.

SHLGA says the number of available places is only part of the picture. Families may also face waiting lists, limited operating hours, travel distances, age-specific availability and workforce shortages.

The submission calls for investment based on actual local need, sustainable support where conventional markets cannot meet demand, and recognition of local government’s role in facilitating solutions. Importantly, councils and regional ratepayers should not become the provider or funder of last resort.

Read the SHLGA Submission [here](#).

Southern and Hills Local Government

Submission

Senate Inquiry into the State of Australia’s Early Childhood Education and Care System in Rural, Regional and Remote Communities

September 2026



Working together for community-ready growth

Victor Harbor, Alexandrina and Yankalilla councils presented a united regional voice to the Premier and Ministers during Country Cabinet in Victor Harbor on 8 October. Their joint presentation focused on community-ready growth and the importance of planning infrastructure and services alongside new housing.

The message was clear – growth must deliver liveable, connected communities, supported by timely investment and strong partnerships between State and local government.

By working together across council boundaries, the three councils demonstrated the value of shared priorities and coordinated advocacy – an approach that reflects SHLGA’s commitment to collaboration and strengthens our region’s voice on the decisions shaping its future.

Spotlight on public health and wellbeing

SHLGA has prepared a new Progress Snapshot highlighting public health action across the Southern and Hills region during 2024–26.

The report showcases how councils contribute to healthier communities through accessible places, recreation and active transport, environmental health, emergency preparedness, climate resilience and community connection. It also highlights the value of regional collaboration and partnerships in responding to shared challenges.

The snapshot complements SHLGA's statutory biennial report to the Chief Public Health Officer and will help inform development of the next Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan in 2027.

Read the report on the [SHLGA Website](https://www.shlga.sa.gov.au)

Southern and Hills LGA

www.shlga.sa.gov.au

Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

2024-2026 Summary Report



On the agenda - South Coast Freight Corridor

RDA Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island brought together the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Member for Finnis, councils and regional stakeholders to reinforce the region's shared commitment to the South Coast Freight Corridor.

The discussion highlighted the importance of a coordinated approach to progressing this regional priority, consistent with SHLGA's [State Election Policy](#). The corridor would support safer, more efficient freight movement and strengthen connections between producers, businesses and markets

Bringing regional voices together helps build a clear, shared case for action. SHLGA welcomes this collaboration and the opportunity to work with RDA, councils and State Government to progress the corridor.