

Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority

Quarterly Report to Members

March 2015



Each Joint Authority is required under Section 36 B of the Local Government Act, 1993 to provide to its members a quarterly report that includes a statement of its general performance and a statement of its financial performance.

This report covers the three-month period ending 31st March 2015. This report with all previous quarterly reports is published on the Authority's website: www.stca.tas.gov.au

The Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) commenced on 1st July 2006.

Photo credit: Brenton West

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QUARTERLY REPORT TO MEMBER COUNCILS DECEMBER 2014

REPORT SUMMARY

The Authority held an Ordinary Meetings on 16th February 2015

1. Bridgewater Bridge Media Event

The Board conducted a media event regarding the Bridgewater Bridge, prior to the Board meeting at the Brighton Council

2. Southern Interim Planning Scheme Update

The Board received an update on the Southern Interim Planning Scheme

3. Draft 2015 – 19 STCA Strategic Plan

The Board considered a draft of the 2015 – 19 STCA Strategic Plan

4. Policy/Portfolio Arrangements

The Board discussed the portfolio arrangements and made recommendations on area of policy development in 2015

5. STCA/Think South Branding

The Board discussed the STCA/Think South branding

6. Destination Southern Tasmania/Tourism Tasmania

The Board received a presentation from Vin Barron, Chair Destination Southern Tasmania, Melinda Anderson, CEO Destination Southern Tasmania and James Cretan, Chair Tourism Tasmania

7. Governance and Audit Committee

The Board endorsed a report from the Governance and Audit Committee

8. Infrastructure Committee

The Board endorsed a report from the Infrastructure Committee

9. Economic Development Committee

The Board endorsed a report from the Economic Development Committee

10. Local Government Reform

The STCA Board discussed the issue of local government reform

11. Regional Approach to Dog Management

The Board endorsed conducting an audit of dog management across southern Tasmania

12. ‘Whatever the Weather, We’re Ready’ Project Launch

The Authority launched its ‘Whatever the Weather, We’re Ready’ project

13. Employees

14. Finances

THE REPORT

1. Bridgewater Bridge Media Event

The Board continued its practice of rotating Board meetings around different locations to member councils. As part of this process the Board held its February Board meeting at the Brighton Council Chambers.

Prior to the Board meeting, the Mayors used the opportunity of gathering as a collective to conduct a media event on the Bridgewater Bridge and the Tasman Bridge.

This event arose of after discussion at the December Board meeting about the future of a new Bridgewater Bridge and the status of the Tasman Bridge.

The media event was extremely well attended by the media and received strong print, television and radio news coverage. The event focussed on the Bridgewater Bridge and the difficult proposition of its replacement.

The STCA knows this project has been on the drawing board for over a decade and there have been countless meetings and reports recommending its construction.

Its time to get moving on the construction of the replacement Bridge. The STCA highlighted its wiliness to work collaboratively with both State and Federal Governments to see the project come to fruition.

This is a large scale project and the only way we are going to see its construction is if all tiers of government work closely together. We have seen planning work undertaken in the past and some funding set aside for land acquisition. But there is still more detailed work outlining a design and proper planning that needs to be completed as well as a timeframe for construction.

The Board also highlighted as part of the event the need to also look at the Tasman Bridge. The Tasman Bridge services commuters, freight and tourists and is the main arterial road connecting the eastern and western shores of greater Hobart. The replacement or duplication would be a costly exercise and something will take time, but if we are going to attract federal funds for such a project state and local government need to start looking at the issue and discussing a long term plan.



Mayors from the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority Board conducting a media event about the construction of a new Bridgewater Bridge

2. Southern Interim Planning Schemes Update

The Board received an update from the CEO regarding the issue of the Southern Interim Planning Schemes.

Towards the end of 2014 member councils received an Exposure Draft Report containing a number of recommendations, from the Advisory Panel of the Tasmanian Planning Commission on councils' draft interim planning schemes.

A number of member councils were unhappy with elements contained in these reports, in particular the concern from councils related to the Advisory Panel seeming to overlook much of the work undertaken by Councils in developing local structure plans designed to help facilitate economic development.

The STCA wrote to Minister Gutwein urging the Minister to engage in further consultation with councils prior to making any decision in relation to the Advisory Panel's recommendations.

It was reported that this further consultation took place and that member councils were now starting to receive their directions notices for their new

interim planning schemes. It is anticipated that the new planning schemes would be declared in the coming months.

It was also reported that the work of the Planning Reform Taskforce to develop the single Statewide Planning Scheme was ongoing and that the Executive Chair Mary Massina had requested the opportunity to come and address the Board on this issue at the next meeting.

would therefore request that you continue to consult with Councils prior to making any decision in relation to the Advisory Panel recommendations or the draft Interim Planning schemes.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and we look forward to continuing the strong working relationship between the STCA and the Tasmanian State Government into the future.

3. Draft 2015 – 19 STCA Strategic Plan

The Board received an update on the development of the new 2015 – 19 STCA Strategic Plan.

As per requirements under the *Local Government Act 1993*, and as part of good governance, the Authority is required to develop a five year strategic plan. The Strategic Plan is then utilised to develop the Annual Plan.

The CEO has been working with the Board and the Committee's to develop the Plan and a first draft was presented to the Board.

At a previous Board meeting initial feedback from the Board was provided and it was agreed that the previous key themes should be maintained. The key themes are.

- Improved Physical Infrastructure
- Enhanced Economic Development
- Improved Environmental Performance
- Enhanced Social well-being
- Improved Inter-regional Cooperation and Local Government Sustainability
- Good Organisational Governance

It was also agreed that the Strategic Plan should pick up elements of local government reform as well as a greater emphasis on engagement with government and other key stakeholder organisations.

It is now proposed member councils have the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft 2015 – 19 Strategic Plan, before it is brought back to the Board for final endorsement.

4. Policy/Portfolio Development

Given that the Board has six new members since the 2014 local government elections the CEO presented a report and associated guidelines on the portfolio policy so that the Board could look at facilitating the development of new policies in 2015.

In February 2014 the STCA Board endorsed a portfolio proposition that enabled Board members to bring projects or policy areas of interest to the Board for endorsement at a regional level.

That person can then act as a spokesperson for the issue in the public domain. The guidelines for portfolio development are listed below. Previous portfolio topics have included Aldi supermarkets, Defence Manufacturing Precinct, Industrial Hemp/Medicinal Marijuana and Business Migration. Through the Committee process it has been identified that the development of a portfolio policy on public transport and the Antarctic/CSIRO/Marine research should take place.

Portfolios provide a good opportunity for the Board to engage in the media and promote the Authority. There were suggestions to develop a range of new policies including public transport, marine industry and the Antarctic/CSIRO/Research sector.

STCA Portfolio Proposal Guidelines

The STCA Board has signalled that it would like to play a greater role in the public policy debate as well as having a greater presence in advocating for particular projects for the southern region.

To help facilitate this process it is important that the Authority has a range of policy positions. Different spokespeople with areas of expertise and interest could be used to promote these policy positions.

If a Mayor has a particular area of interest in public policy or a particular issue that impacts southern Tasmania then they could seek the STCA Board to take a position on this issue.

The Mayor would work with the STCA CEO to draft a policy position of no more than two pages. This policy would highlight the issue, provide some background, potential benefits for the region and finally a suggested position for the STCA.

This policy position would then be presented to the next STCA Board meeting for debate and hopefully endorsement, giving the policy position greater weight by through the endorsement of the regional authority.

No comment should be made on behalf of the Authority until the Board has endorsed the policy position.

The STCA Board may then endorse the Mayor who brought the policy position to the Board to act as the spokesperson for the region on that particular issue.

The STCA CEO would then work with the Mayor to conduct media events on the issue, respond to media enquiries, and highlight the issue through the Authority's newsletter and social media.

This would empower Mayors to bring key issues to STCA Board meetings and have that policy position develop greater weight through endorsement on a regional level.

It would also allow Mayors to pursue areas of interest and expertise, and help promote the Authority by building its profile and delivering results for the region.

5. STCA/Think South Branding

The Board received a report on the STCA/Think South Branding. After the current STCA CEO was appointed in July 2013 an internal corporate brand review was undertaken as part of the process to try and increase the Authority's profile within the community, media and government.

The review revealed that the STCA had very little identifiable corporate brand and a low level public profile, it also found that the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, was deemed long and cumbersome, with media organisations rarely using the name in its entirety.

In November 2013, after work by the CEO and RedJelly the Board endorsed a new trading name for the Authority 'Think South'. Which was registered with ASIC.

It was determined that this should act as a trading name and be used in public promotion, such as media events and social media accounts. It was determined that the Authority would still legally remain the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority for grants and audit purposes.

In recent months there has been some confusion arising due to the Authority remaining www.stca.tas.gov.au and that address being used for the CEO's email address.

The Board determined that for continuity that the website should be changed to www.thinksouth.tas.gov.au and likewise the CEO's email change to reflect this address. This website is currently vacant and there doesn't appear to be anything prohibiting this change taking place. However, there will be a number of processes to go through to secure the .gov domain name. A redirection service could also be implemented to ensure that users were taken to the new website if they entered the old website address, likewise with emails.

6. Destination Southern Tasmania/Tourism Tasmania Presentation

The Board received a presentation from Mr Vin Barron, Chair Destination Southern Tasmania, Ms Melinda Anderson, CEO Destination Southern Tasmania and Mr James Cretan, Chair Tourism Tasmania.

Destination Southern Tasmania appointed Melinda Anderson as the new CEO of the organisation in July 2014. Since taking on the role Melinda has been travelling around to engage with councils across southern Tasmania. This was Melinda's first opportunity to address the Board as a group.

James was appointed the new Chair of Tourism Tasmania in July 2014, he will play a key role in helping the Tasmanian State Government reach their goal of attracting 1.5 million visitors to Tasmania by year 2020.

Mr Cretan has previously served on the Tourism Industry Council Tasmania and Skills Tasmania Boards. He also has practical experiencing founding Cradle Mountain Wilderness Village as well as working on other tourism developments.

Melinda and Vin spoke about the work of DST, in particular over the past nine months since Melinda became the new CEO of the organisation. They also provided a quarterly report, a new initiative that will be sent to all councils and tabled at STCA meetings. They spoke about the importance of partnering with local government to deliver results in the tourism industry in southern Tasmania.

James also spoke about Tourism Tasmania's commitment to the Regional Tourism Organisation model, and the role of those four RTOs. As well as the work of Tourism Tasmania over the past 12 months, including the record number of visitors that state had received.

Melinda, Vin and James spoke about the future direction of tourism in southern Tasmania and highlighted Tourism Tasmania's commitment to DST. As well as talking about their intent to continue to work closely with local government as a key partner in the tourism sector across southern Tasmania.

It was also acknowledge that local councils are a key stakeholder in the tourism industry, providing public infrastructure such as roads, lookouts and public toilets as well as support for events and festivals all of which help facilitate the tourism industry.

Destination Southern Tasmania Snapshot – December quarter 2014	
This report is designed to highlight key activities undertaken by DST quarterly.	
Membership	Key Performance Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DST has 173 Southern Tasmania industry members DST conducted its inaugural annual membership survey in October 2014 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ 50.4% in members since 2013 \$116,100 industry membership value Intention to renew membership was 3.7 out of 5
Marketing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring/Summer 2014 activities included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hobart and Beyond emagazine Social media content generation Cruise– posters in Mac 2, trade permits Regional posters in Tasmanian Travel Centre Outdoor signage – Red Decker Bus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$31,256 industry marketing buy in 848,000 interstate/International visitors to south Tasmania Sept quarter * 2014 ↑7% on 2013 Average spend per interstate/international visitor to Tasmania* is \$1,635 ↑ 9% Southern Tasmania accommodation occupancy rate 90.3% for November ↑ 1.52% 4,822 Facebook fans ↑ 62% since June quarter
Public Relations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish World Cup Cricket Team day out in southern Tasmania (Pennicott Wilderness Journeys, Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary, Ratho Farm, Lark Distillery) Emirates Melbourne Cup tour to southern Tasmania (Pennicott Wilderness Journeys , Port Arthur Historic Site, Tasmanian Air Adventures, Tasmanian Devil Conservation Park) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cricket footage distributed via the ICC’s media network to over 170 countries and social media to 3.2 million followers Member Cup images distributed to 60,000 VRC facebook followers and 35,000 twitter fans
Industry Professionalism and Development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online Reputation Masterclass, Hobart Cruise Tourism Workshop, Hobart Gearing up for China Workshops, Hobart AGM networking function, Hobart Three Capes Research Workshop, Tasman PATTA Sense of Place workshop, Tasman Member presentations to Tourism Tasmania staff , Hobart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 80 attendees 60 attendees 183 attendees 60 attendees 30 attendees 30 attendees Home Hill Winery, Derwent Sailing Squadron, Tasmanian Air Adventures, Penitentiary Chapel, Falls Festival, Hobart Yachts, Villa Howden, Tahune Airwalk, Barilla Bay Oysters, Tangle Foot Tours, Love Tasmania Tours
Advocacy	
DST has made submissions to or been consulted for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks 21, Tourism Industry Council Tasmania Free Tourism Public WiFi, Dept of State Growth Agritourism Strategy, Dept of State Growth Dunalley Waterfront Marina, Dept of State Growth 	DST media commentary included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cruise season Support of North Melbourne Football Club sponsorship China workshops and growth in visitation Industry sentiment Scottish Cricket Team /ICC Cricket World Cup

7. Governance and Audit Committee

The Board received a report from the Governance and Audit Committee. The Governance and Audit Committee met out of session and approved papers and associated recommendations.

At the December Board meeting of the STCA, the Board looked at the issue of the number of project accounts that had small amount of funds remaining in them. These are accounts where a project has been completed, in some cases a number of years ago, and all of the funding appropriately acquitted, leaving a small amount of funds.

The Governance and Audit Committee was charged with identifying which accounts could be utilised to establish the STCA Special Projects Fund. There were a number of accounts operated by the STCA, that stand out as accounts that should be looked at being merged into the STCA Special Projects Fund. All have had little activity in the past 18 months if not longer or the specific project has been completed and acquitted.

It was also determined to make sense to consolidate the Southern Tasmanian Industrial Land Study Account - \$1,846 into the Southern Planning Project account. Given the Industrial Land Study was a component of the Planning Project and is now completed. The Board resolved to task the CEO with further work to determine whether these accounts could be merged into the Special Projects Fund.

The Special Projects Fund could be utilised in the Authority ever needed small amounts of consulting work undertaken or provide a small contribution to a specific project of regional significance

The Committee also examined the establishment of an STCA social media policy. In recent months as part of the profile building activities for the STCA the Authority has become increasingly active on social media through the establishment of Think South accounts.

The CEO had been guided by the STCA media spokesperson policy and posts content that is directly authorised by the Board and relates to specific activities of the Authority.

For example, at the media event conducted before the STCA Board meeting held at Sorell at the end of 2014 the CEO posted social media content including photos of the Mayors conducting a joint media conference.

Likewise, stories that appeared on news websites and the in newspaper were published on the social media account.

Whilst the STCA media policy provides a good guide regarding social media use of the Think South accounts, it would be prudent for the Authority to develop a specific social media policy relating to the use of these accounts.

The Board approved the Governance and Audit Committee to develop this proposal and bring it back to the board for approval.

It was noted by the Board that this is a policy to govern Think South specific social media accounts and not individual board member social media accounts when they are acting in their capacity as Mayor of their municipality.

8. Infrastructure Committee

The Infrastructure Committee met on Tuesday 10th February. The Committee discussed developing a set of regional infrastructure priorities for 2015. It was noted that the Board had previously developed a set of infrastructure priorities and had success as a region advocating and lobbying for their construction.

In recent months a number of these projects have been funded by both State and Federal Governments. It also seemed appropriate given the new STCA Board to develop a new set of priorities.

It was proposed that the STCA CEO write to individual councils seeking input on an infrastructure priority from their municipality, the Committee would then develop a priority document encompassing these priorities for consideration by the Board.

The Committee and Board also discussed the development of portfolios and policies and it was thought that public transport was a key issue. The Committee asked the CEO to work on developing this policy, given the many benefits of an effective public transport system in southern Tasmania.

The Committee also provided feedback on the new 2015 – 19 Strategic Plan and suggested some recommendations for inclusion in the new draft plan.

9. Economic Development Committee

The Economic Development Committee met on Wednesday 4th February 2015. The Committee discussed some key priority areas that they wanted to focus on in 2015. In particular, the continued expansion of industries such as fruit, dairy, seafood and wine, and how local government could continue to work with these sectors to promote their expansion and some of the challenges they face.

The Committee also received an update from the CEO on the development of the regional Economic Development Prospectus that was currently in development.

The Committee discussed developing further portfolio policies that could be used to promote economic development within the southern region. In particular the Committee felt that it was important to develop an Antarctic/CSIRO/Marine research policy given the economic significance of these industries in southern Tasmania.

There was also discussions about certain events that could be coming to Tasmania in 2015 and how councils and local communities capitalise on these opportunities.

The marine industry across southern Tasmania was also spoken about, including the opportunities for marine tourism given the increasing number of marinas being developed across southern Tasmania. As well as opportunities for ship building and maintenance.

Mayor Vincent also updated the Committee of the ongoing discussions with the Tasmanian State Government to develop a south east economic development/infrastructure report.

10. Local Government Reform

Towards the end of 2014 the Minister for Local Government, Peter Gutwein MP indicated that he would be inviting the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and General Manager from all councils to regional meetings to discuss local government reform. In particular whether there were opportunities for greater resource sharing or even amalgamations.

The Minister outlined that any amalgamations must met the following principles.

1. be in the interest of ratepayers;
2. improve the level of services for communities;
3. preserve and maintain local representation; and
4. ensure that the financial status of the entities is strengthened

The Board responded to these meetings called by Minister Gutwein examining the previously completed Munro Report. A briefing on the report was provided to the Board. The Governance and Audit Committee also looked at this issue in December, however it was difficult for the Committee to make any recommendations and pre-empt the meeting with Minister Gutwein in February.

Following the meetings with councils in early February the Board took the opportunity to discuss the issue and reflect on Minister Gutwein's presentation. It was agreed if there was an opportunity for member councils to work together and be more efficient it should be looked at. It was also agreed that the first step should be councils individually considering the offer by Minister Gutwein for funding to conduct feasibility studies into resource sharing and amalgamations.

11. Regional Approach to Dog Management

The issue of dog management was raised at the Board meeting. In particular the significant cost the Clarence, Glenorchy, Brighton and Hobart councils are paying a private provider to undertake the service obligations regarding dogs under the *Local Government Act*.

Currently these four councils each pay a significant cost to the private provider to operate a pound and undertake the associated activities as required. The holding of a dog at this facility for a day costs far more than to house a dog at a kennel. Whilst it was recognised that there were significant costs associated with providing the services required under the *Local Government Act* it was wondered if a cheaper solution could be found. The Board felt there was an opportunity to undertake an audit of dog pounding services in southern Tasmania to see if a regional solution was appropriate.

12. Whatever the Weather Project Launch

Whatever the Weather, We're Ready seeks to inform and engage local communities on the critical issue of climate change. It encourages people to begin to respond to and prepare for local changes in the climate and impacts. *Whatever the Weather* has arisen from the Regional Climate Change Adaption Project (RCCAP) undertaken by the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA).

RCCAP developed council climate change adaption plans for each of the 12 southern councils along with a regional strategy picking up common risks and adaption objectives for southern Tasmania. It was through this that a need was identified to encourage communities to begin adapting to changes on our climate.

Importantly, *Whatever the Weather* highlights that climate change is real and because of this Tasmania is experiencing more extreme weather conditions. For instance, in the past 12 months Tasmania has experienced unseasonal bushfires in October and floods in January.

It is hoped that *Whatever the Weather* can lead to a greater appreciation by our communities of the risks that they and their families may face from a changing climate in the future and therefore lead to increased resilience.

The project encourages people to view the *Whatever the Weather, We're Ready* videos and help spread the word on getting ready to adapt to climate change by sharing them with your friends on social media.

The Project was launched by the Chair of the STCA in February at RedJelly with good media attendance.

13. Employees

Mr Brenton West, took up the role of full time Chief Executive Officer of the Authority on 1 July 2013. The Authority has previously employed other staff as government grant funding is obtained. It is intended that this process will continue.

14. Finance

A summary of financial performance for the second quarter of the 2014/15 financial year follows:

SOUTHERN TASMANIAN COUNCILS AUTHORITY
Financial Report as at 31st March 2015

	Actual at 31/03/15	Budget Year to Date	Budget 2014/15
	\$	\$	\$
Revenue plus opening balances			
STCA Consolidated Account	283,428	212,571	283,428
Regional GIS Project	24,664	18,498	24,664
Regional Planning	2,363	1772.25	2,363
Water and Sewerage Owners Representatives	1,231	923.25	1,231
Climate Change adaptation project	44,365	33,273.75	44,365
Climate Change communication project	46,490	32,617.5	43,490
Regional Visioning	2,505	1,878.75	2,505
Local Government Structures Project	5,587	4,190.25	5,587
Tourism	10,460	7,845	10,460
Industrial Land use Study	4,972	3,729	4,972
SMART form	2,909	2,181.75	2,909
TOTAL REVENUE	430,746	320,809.5	427,746
Expenditure			
STCA Consolidated Account	(105,983)	(140,190)	(186,950)
Regional GIS Project	(0)	(0)	(0)
Regional Planning	(505)	(1,500)	(2,000)
Water and Sewerage Owners Representatives	0	0	0
Climate Change adaptation project	(1,770)	(27,075)	(36,100)
Climate Change communication project	(35,900)	(32,400)	(43,200)
Regional Visioning	0	0	0
Local Government Structures Project	0	0	0
Tourism	0	(0)	(0)
Industrial Land use Study	(3,126)	(3,000)	(4,000)
SMART form	0	(0)	(0)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(147,284)	(204,187.5)	(272,250)

Closing Balances

STCA Consolidated Account	177,445	72,358.5	96,478
Regional GIS Project	24,664	18,498	24,664
Regional Planning	1,859	272.25	363
Water and Sewerage Owners Representatives	1,231	923.25	1,231
Climate Change adaptation project	44,365	33.75	45
Climate Change communication project	43,490	217.5	290
Regional Visioning	2,505	1878.75	2,505
Local Government Structures Project	5,587	4,190.25	5,587
Tourism	10,460	7,845	10,460
Industrial Land use Study	1,846	729	972
SMART form	2,909	2,181.75	2,909
	<u>283,462</u>	<u>109,128</u>	<u>145,504</u>

It is to be noted that there are eleven separate accounts.

1. STCA consolidated account.

The operating account of the Authority currently the account has a balance of \$177,445.

2. Regional GIS Project.

NRM South made a financial contribution towards achievement of the Regional GIS initiative up to 30th June 2009.

In addition, member Councils agreed to contribute \$7,000 each in 2008/09 and \$10,000 each in 2009/10. There was a carryover of \$224,790 at the commencement of the year, which included a contribution of \$67,500 made in 2010/11 by Southern Water to cover 50% of the cost of aerial photography. The first round of aerial photography was completed during 2010/11 in spite of unfavourable flying conditions.

The aerial photography has now been paid for which has reduced the balance in the account to \$77,614. The Board set aside \$50,000 from this account for further LiDAR mapping of southern Tasmania. This has been completed and paid for leaving a balance of \$24,664

3. Regional Planning.

The Regional Planning Project is continuing, the State Government provided \$30,000 of funding for 2013/14. Currently the balance is \$1,859.

4. Water and Sewerage Owners Representatives.

An allocation of \$1,231 was brought forward for the 2014/15

5. Climate Change Adaptation Project.

This project is ongoing with the STCA receiving funding from the state government to complete a regional adaption plan and individual adaption plans for all northern councils.

6. Climate Change Communication Project.

Contributions of \$35,000 in total (Clarence, \$10,000, Hobart \$20,000 and Kingborough \$5,000) have been carried over to undertake the project now that the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Plan has been completed. This project is progressing with extra funding from the State Government and will be completed this year.

7. Regional visioning.

This project is funded by a contribution by Hobart City Council of \$5,000 carried over from 2009/10 and an allocation from the STCA Consolidated Account. This work has been undertaken and completed.

8. Local Government Structures Project.

Approval for a project under the Local Government Reform fund was given in December 2010. The total Australian Government grant of \$150,000, has been received and an independent evaluation study has been completed.

9. Tourism.

A total of \$10,460 has been brought forward for this financial year.

10. Industrial Land Use Study.

The Industrial Land Use study is an adjunct to the Regional Strategic Land Use Plan and has been jointly funded by a number of member councils and the Department of economic Development. The project has been finalised and endorsed by the Board with some residual funding brought forward.

11. SMART Forms

The STCA Board has endorsed a variation to the grant deed for this project to allow for the funds to be used to further develop the online planning system. Those funds have been used to pay for a contribution for this software.

The STCA Governance and Audit Committee is currently examining whether some of these completed project funds could be rolled into an STCA project account. This work is ongoing.