



An Australian Government Initiative



Regional
Development
Australia
ILLAWARRA

Quarterly Report to the Region October to December 2022

Top 5 Achievements



1. Housing Supply Roundtable delivers immediate, short and long term solutions
2. 7 submissions made to three levels of government to support Illawarra's growth
3. Advocacy ramps up and positive feedback received for Illawarra-Shoalhaven Greater Cities Partnership
4. Record number of applications for Leadership Illawarra Program 2023-2024
5. 2 Workshops held for Employers to support Skilled Migration in the Region

Housing roundtable delivers immediate, short and long term solutions



RDA Illawarra's November Housing Supply Roundtable highlighted both the social and economic effects of the housing shortage in the region. With over \$30 billion in transformative infrastructure planned for completion over the next two decades, just housing the peak construction workforce of more than 4,000 will be a challenge.

Keynote speakers emphasised the social impact of transient accommodation and the potential economic impact to the region of not being able to attract and retain skilled workers.

Possible solutions and actions were brainstormed and will form the foundation for RDA Illawarra's advocacy with NSW and Australian governments.



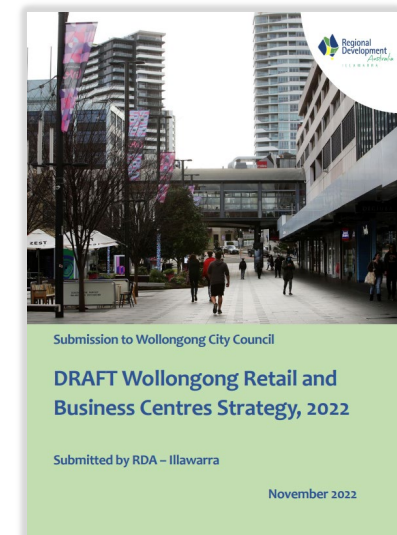
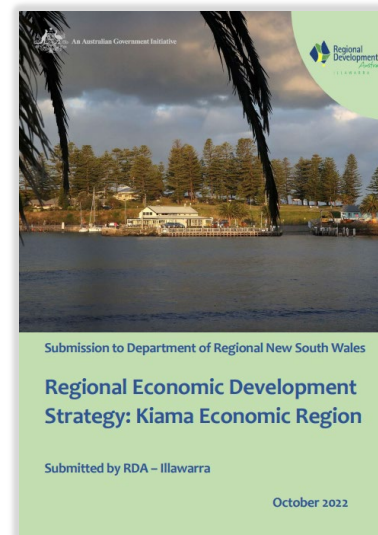
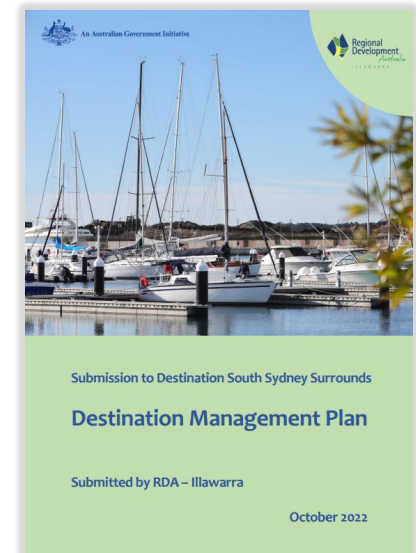
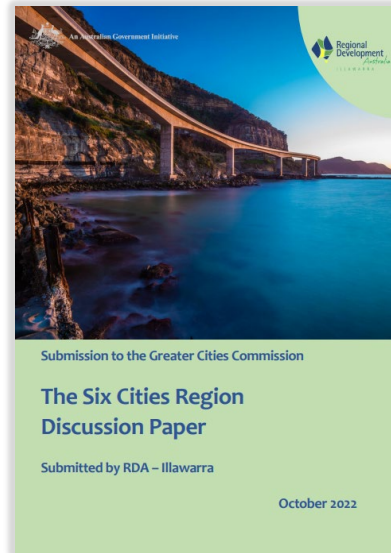
Read the Housing Supply Roundtable presentation [here](#).

7 submissions made to 3 levels of government to support Illawarra regional growth

RDA Illawarra is pleased to have made 7 submissions across three levels of government.

These submissions vary from The Six Cities Discussion paper, through to the Defence Strategic Review, Destination Management Plan and Migration system for Australia's future.

Submissions for local government included the Kiama Regional Economic Development Strategy and Wollongong Retail and Business Strategy.



Advocacy ramps up and positive feedback received for Illawarra-Shoalhaven Greater Cities Partnership



Read the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Greater Cities Partnership Prospectus [here](#).

The dialogue has been opened up with State and Federal Governments since the launch of the Illawarra-Shoalhaven Greater Cities Partnership in October with a significant number of briefings held. We look forward to working across all levels of government and the private sector to secure funding for the transformation of our regions.

Peter Poulos (NSW Parliamentary Secretary for Wollongong and the Illawarra) is very supportive of the updated City Partnership, noting that the projects are well selected for the region. At a recent meeting, he made a number of suggestions regarding advocacy and offered his assistance to make it happen at a State level.

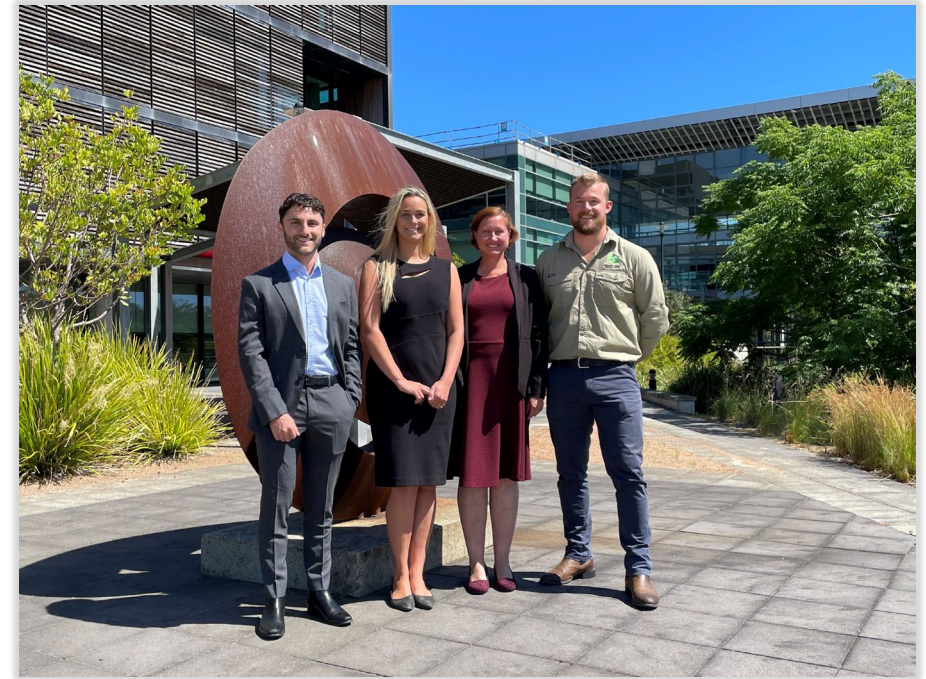
Record number of applications for Leadership Illawarra Program 2023-2024

A record thirty-five applications were received for the 2023-24 intake of the Leadership Illawarra Program.

28 successful applicants will commence the two-year experiential leadership program in February.

Five scholarships were awarded to a group of high calibre next generation Illawarra leaders from the highly competitive field of applicants.

The incoming cohort will soon dive into a range of leadership workshops, UOW Masterclasses, Site visits, Mentoring and networking opportunities.



2023-24 LIP Scholarship recipients

Left to right Peter Katsoudas (IRT), Aleisha Brooke-Smith (Greenacres), Alison Turner (Flagstaff Group) and Mitchell Bell (Select Civil Pty Ltd). Carlie Belancic (The Happiness Lab) not pictured.

RDA Illawarra, in partnership with



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

2 Workshops held for Employers to support Skilled Migration in the Region

The Australian Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) and RDA Illawarra ran two briefings to help educate employers on the different types of visa programs available to bring in skilled migrants to address the region's skills shortage.

Employers were grateful to learn directly from DoHA and the NSW Government representatives and have their questions answered.

RDA Illawarra is involved in the assessment of 491 and 494 visa classes.

Visit our Skilled Migration website [here](#) to find out more about the programs.



RDA Illawarra Board



More information on the RDA Illawarra Board members can be found [here](#).

If you have any feedback or insights, please contact us here:

email: admin@rdailawarra.com.au

phone: 02 4258 3610

website: www.rdailawarra.com.au

Linda Davis (Director Planning and Environment, Wollongong City Council), **Jessica De Angelis** (Executive Officer – Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District), **Eddy De Gabriele (Chair)** (Business Owner), **Joanna Kubota (Deputy Chair)** (Executive Director – Western Parkland Councils), **Trish McClure** (UCI 2022 Road World Championships Traffic and Transport Manager), **Carey McIntyre** (City Futures Directorate at Shoalhaven City Council), **Craig Osborne** (Managing Partner – RMB Lawyers), **Mark Roberts** (Senior Manager Strategic Projects – UOW), **Daniel Rowan** (Business Owner), **Mark Sleigh** (General Manager – Destination Wollongong), **Nicky Sloan** (Executive Director Memberships & Services/Executive Director NSW, ACT & Qld, Aged & Community Services Australia), **Milco Stojanoski** (Manager Slabmaking, Australian Steel Products – BlueScope), **Paul Wellings CBE** (Emeritus Professor, UOW).