

21.02 STATE AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

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C52(Part 1)

The Municipal Strategic Statement has been prepared within the regional context and the State **Planning Policy Framework**. **It is designed to assist in the implementation of State policies.**

The Glenelg Shire is located in Victoria's south west. The Shire's economy is based on productive rural land which supports agriculture and timber production. The fishing industry and the aluminium smelter at Portland are important sectors of the economy. Other important assets are the Portland airfield and Portland's port facilities which have a capacity to serve western Victoria and south east South Australia through the road network and further development of rail links.

The key resources of the Glenelg municipal area which relate to the wider State Planning Policy Framework are:

- The deep water port at Portland - one of only four such facilities in the State.
- Productive primary industries, particularly agriculture, timber, fishing and the growing importance of horticulture.
- The aluminium smelter at Portland.
- The area's groundwater, geothermal, oil and natural gas resources, the reliable rainfall and high quality soils.
- The coastline and coastal environment as an environment and recreational resource.
- The built heritage of the area, particularly at Portland which is the State's oldest European settlement.
- The Shire's biodiversity including its Red Gum woodlands, waterways and wetlands, intertidal areas and lagoons and marine environments.
- The character and significance of coastal landscapes.

In respect of the planning of these strategic resources, particular attention will be given to the following provisions and clauses in the State Planning Policy Framework.

- 15.01 Protection of catchments, waterways and groundwater
- 15.03 Salinity
- 15.08 Coastal areas
- 15.09 Conservation of native flora and fauna
- 15.11 Heritage
- 17.03 Industry
- 17.04 Tourism
- 17.05 Agriculture
- 17.07 Forestry and timber production
- 18.05 Ports

In deciding on an application for a new use or development, the Municipal Strategic Statement and Local Planning Policies require that the following matters be taken into account:

- The capacity of the Shire's natural resource base to support agriculture, horticulture and timber production and their expansion in a sustainable manner.
- The opportunities for value-adding to and processing of local and regional products.

- The role and function of the port of Portland, its capacity to export local products and to support industry and the development of maritime industries.
- The recreational, tourist and residential development opportunities provided by the coast and its environs and the need to manage coastal use and development in order to conserve its landscape and environmental qualities.
- The need to conserve the Shire's biodiversity including the Red Gum woodlands, waterways and wetlands, intertidal areas and lagoons and coastal areas.
- The need to protect and conserve places of cultural heritage significance.