

TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

Agency – includes any government agency, department, statutory body or similar entity.

Flow-on effect – A flow-on effect is an indirect consequence of the change, e.g. moving a service centre to another location may affect numbers and distribution of school students due to the movement of parents who work in the centre, and result over time in a loss of teaching staff. How will this affect the shop that provides the school lunches? What about the shop that sells school uniforms?

Government – Government of South Australia, unless otherwise specified.

Negative – A negative impact is one that detracts from the economic, social and/or environmental outcomes for a community or place.

Positive – A positive impact is one that enhances the economic, social, and/or environmental outcomes for a community or place.

Regional Impact Assessment Statement (RIAS) – A document that comes about as a result of consultation and communication by an agency in order to assess and understand the nature, quantum and timing of a planned significant change to the standard or level of an existing service provided to regional communities in South Australia.

The published Statement identifies the consultation, assessment and research that has occurred and the anticipated social, economic and environmental implications of the change for the principal users or beneficiaries of that service.

The following definitions of *Significant* and *Service* are offered to assist in determining when a Regional Impact Assessment Statement should be prepared.

Regions – In December 2006, Cabinet agreed to create 12 uniform South Australian Government Regions for use by Government agencies when undertaking planning, service delivery and reporting, to enhance collaborative strategic planning between agencies and the regionalisation and reporting on South Australia's

Strategic Plan (SASP). Of the 12 uniform South Australian Government Regions, eight are recognised as either Country or Greater Adelaide, and four are recognised as Metropolitan. This policy applies to the eight Country or Greater Adelaide Regions. The details are available from: www.sa.gov.au/topics/housing-property-and-land/building-and-development/land-supply-and-planning-system/south-australian-government-regions

Service – a change in services refers to any proposed alteration to the delivery of State Government services involving the expansion, retraction or mode of delivery that may affect accessibility, options or costs to users.

The definition of *service*, for the purposes of this policy, can apply to any government decision whether it be the creation, withdrawal or significant change of a service (e.g. dramatic increase or reduction of teaching staff in a regional school; opening, closing or relocating a police station; increasing or reducing access to health care, or dramatically changing its delivery, for example service delivery via video linkup rather than in person) or a regulation that when implemented will impact on people's livelihoods.

Significant – is determined in relation to those whom the decision will affect, not in relation to the agency concerned. For instance, what is perceived as a minor decision by the agency could be a major concern to an affected region.

Determining *significance* and whether or not to initiate a RIAS is a judgement that the agency must make. Ultimately, it is the Chief Executive's responsibility to determine whether a particular issue requires the preparation of a RIAS.

Significant change – is a change that will, or is likely to affect an entire regional community, groups of individuals living in regions, or regional communities in the short or long term.

Social and community – refers to a group of people in a specific geographic location who share varying degrees of cohesion, identity, resources, preferences and values in common.