



# THE CITY OF WHYALLA



22 February 2016

**World Health Organisation  
Avenue Appia 20  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland**

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

### Re: Age-Friendly City

The City of Whyalla is located 396 kilometres northwest of Adelaide, South Australia's capital City.

Whyalla is located on the western shores of Spencer Gulf and is the largest City in the Upper Spencer Gulf region.

Set between the sea and the Australian outback, Whyalla with a population of close to 22,000 people, is a close knit community and has a strong sense of place.

Whyalla is well known in the district for the number of high standard services it provides to its residents and visitors to the region.

The City is serviced by the Whyalla Hospital and Health Services, a major modern, regional health facility which includes a state of the art medical centre providing a comprehensive cancer hub, mental health and rehabilitation units, new accident and emergency unit, operating theatres and patient accommodation units. We are also proud to be able to provide two aged care facilities in the City.

Whyalla provides a modern, upgraded airport and terminal; education facilities – including further education capabilities and the Whyalla campus of the University of South Australia. Our community is very sport focussed and a great number of sporting amenities are provided and utilised by our residents.

We provide a state of the art public library, art galleries supporting both local and National Art prizes; a Maritime Museum where Australia's largest land-locked ship, HMAS Whyalla dominates the location.

Further to this we have Whyalla's amazing foreshore, marina area with visiting dolphins, the beauty of the Northern Coastline which boasts the collection and spawning, in shallow waters, of many thousands of Giant Cuttlefish which migrate to the area each year.

We are blessed to live in a safe, healthy community and regional City which is supported by residents, government and professional agencies and many service clubs and associations.

## THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WHYALLA

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ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO  
BE ADDRESSED TO THE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

It gives me great pleasure as Acting Mayor of this great City to endorse Whyalla's intent and commitment, in the bid to become recognised as an 'Age-Friendly' City.

An 18 month community consultation process with community stakeholders has been undertaken and from this a Master Plan entitled "Living Well: Master Plan for Ageing and Disability" has been developed.

We encourage and promote healthy lifestyles for our residents. This is an entitlement for both young and old no matter your circumstances. Living in Whyalla means living well!

A key recommendation of the Ageing and Disability Master Plan is to formally commit Whyalla to becoming an 'Age Friendly' City and to submit a formal application in its bid to join the World Health Organisation Global Age – Friendly Cities Network.

The Master Plan has identified priority objectives, actions and strategies against each of the eight age-friendly topic areas over a ten year timeframe. These actions have now been mapped against three time horizons: the short term (1-3 years), the medium term (4-6 years), and the longer term (7-10 years).

Through community consultations and the development of all actions within the *Living Well: Master Plan*, the City of Whyalla commits to fulfilling and creating the following vision for Whyalla:

- A pervasive feeling of peace of peace, safety and security for all residents of Whyalla.
- Maintain a program of improving lighting in streets, parks and public places.
- Continue to create well-equipped civic spaces, public parks and recreation facilities with amenities that meet the needs of a whole community so we may continue to promote active programs and festivals that are attractive to all community members and encourage social interaction.
- Maintain and develop community based exercise programs that maintain good health and encourage social interaction.
- Continue with the Whyalla Foreshore re-development and create accessibility for all.
- To generate a range of quality retirement living options.
- Continue to develop a safe, well-maintained road network with dedicated bicycle lanes as well as progressing with our plan to have well-maintained footpaths and well-designed paths for gophers and wheelchairs.
- Giving the community the ability to travel independently by having affordable city-wide bus and taxi services with wheelchair and disabled access.
- To continue to work with allied health services so our community has a well-equipped and well-staffed hospital and allied health services with accessible primary care services.
- To create a range of personal development and volunteering opportunities to enhance life-long learning.

Whyalla is known for its quality lifestyle and we are making a firm commitment to become an Age-Friendly City. We fully understand and believe that by ensuring our commitment to becoming an Age-Friendly City we are making a resilient future investment in Whyalla.

The City of Whyalla looks forward in working with the World Health Organisation and positively establishing Whyalla as an Age-Friendly City.

**Yours Sincerely**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Antonio', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Tom Antonio  
Acting Mayor, City of Whyalla**