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## **KANGAROO ISLAND PLAN TO PROTECT NATURAL ASSETS AND SUPPORT TOURISM**

Minister for Urban Development and Planning Paul Holloway said today a new planning strategy adopted for Kangaroo Island aims to further grow its tourism and primary production industries while protecting its natural assets and local industry.

Mr Holloway says the *Kangaroo Island Region Plan* outlines a clear vision for development on the island, encouraging initiatives that help retain the special qualities for which this region is world renowned.

“Protecting Kangaroo Island’s natural assets is absolutely crucial to the livelihoods of the local population,” Mr Holloway says.

“For this reason, preserving the landscape, coastline and primary production lands is central to this Plan.

“It will ensure residents can maximise the benefits of tourism interest in the island as well as opportunities to grow the primary production industry.”

Mr Holloway says Kangaroo Island has an area of 4,400 square kilometres and is home to 4,500 people, with 40 percent of the population living around Kingscote, on the north eastern coast of the island.

“To ensure the greatest future benefit for residents of Kangaroo Island, this Plan broadly identifies where housing and industry growth is best located – and not located – across the island,” he says.

“To encourage economic growth, the Plan identifies the different roles and functions associated with various parts of the island, including the towns, and tackles issues such as the interface between industry, residential areas, and the island’s environmental assets.

“The island’s primary production includes cropping, grazing, horticulture and fishing which supports the production of locally made goods such as wine, cheese, olive oil and honey.”

The *Kangaroo Island Plan* is the result of a thorough collaborative process involving the Kangaroo Island Council, the Kangaroo Island Development Board, the Kangaroo Island Natural Resource Management Boards, and other State Government agencies.