

Green Adelaide Board



Member recruitment information 2023

greenadelaide.sa.gov.au

**GREEN
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1. Introduction

Applications are now open for multiple new board positions to oversee the direction of Green Adelaide to drive a cooler, greener and wilder city.

We need strategic thinkers ready to empower our communities to sustainably manage Adelaide's metropolitan land, water, pests, plants and animals, and biodiversity. We know that balancing development and nature in a highly populated metropolitan landscape is a key challenge.

We are looking for passionate leaders who are interested in educating, inspiring, influencing and enabling a cooler, greener, wilder and climate-resilient city that celebrates our unique culture.

Read this document to learn about the role and responsibilities of the Green Adelaide Board.

1.1 Key dates

Applications open on 28 February 2023.

Applications close at 5pm on 26 March 2023.

New board members will be appointed from July 2023.

2. Who are we looking for?

We are looking for experienced, emerging, and respected community leaders, with established networks with relevant stakeholders and partners.

To be an effective board member you will have:

- The ability to work constructively and collaboratively as part of a team with integrity and a strong commitment to contribute and participate in meetings and activities.
- An understanding of contemporary ethical governance practices including, compliance, cultural awareness, diversity, inclusiveness, and risk management.
- Leadership in strategic and critical thinking, including business and finance acumen, strong communication, advocacy and influencing skills.
- Partnerships, community development and networking experiences including contemporary political awareness and capacity to interact productively and collaboratively with others when dealing with political issues and matters.

Collectively, an effective board will need a broad range of skills, experience and knowledge to enable the board to carry out its functions. Green Adelaide has a focus on the urban environment and board members in Green Adelaide will demonstrate experiences/skills/knowledge across the urban environment. Each board member will need to demonstrate skills/experience in at least one of the landscape management areas below:

- a) community affairs at the regional level;
- b) conservation and biodiversity management;
- c) water resources management;
- d) business management;
- e) local government or local government administration;
- f) urban or regional planning;
- g) Aboriginal interest in the land and water, and Aboriginal heritage;



- h) pest animal and plant control;
- i) natural and social science;
- j) if relevant—coast, estuarine and marine management, fisheries or aquaculture.

There may also be other criteria or weighting on criteria to meet specific needs.

Board members will be appointed for their skills, knowledge and experience, as opposed to organisations or communities they may otherwise represent.

Membership on the board will aim to reflect the region’s diversity in culture, gender, experience, skills and age. All people with relevant skills, knowledge and experience are encouraged to apply, including Aboriginal people, young people, and people from diverse cultural background.

3. Who is Green Adelaide?

Green Adelaide is one of [9 South Australian landscape boards](#) with a specific focus on the urban environment and was established under the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019 (the Act)*.

We are Adelaide’s first dedicated government urban environmental specialist organisation.

[Our area](#) spans across Adelaide’s 17 metropolitan councils and includes about a third of Gulf St Vincent.

Climate change, urban sprawl and infill, and loss of habitat are modern issues faced by many capital cities - and Adelaide is no exception

Our mission is to encourage activities and policies for Adelaide that enable pro-environmental behavioural change. Our aim is to green and cool backyards, streets and neighbourhoods, enhance biodiversity and create healthy green spaces for everyone.

This will be achieved by facilitating partnerships, investing in aligned initiatives, educating about nature, and delivering iconic on-ground environmental projects.

We work with Kaurna, all levels of government, industry, private landholders, and communities.

The board provides independent and strategic direction for the organisation. The board is an expert, skills-based body charged with leading innovation and achieving positive outcomes across the urban environment.

Under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, Green Adelaide has an additional role to the other boards as outlined below. The following provides the legislative and policy framework in which Green Adelaide is embedded.



Figure 1: Map of SA's 9 landscape boards and their areas of responsibility.



3.1 Landscape South Australia Act 2019

The Act provides a framework for the management of South Australia's environment.

It is based on 5 core principles:

- *Decentralised decision making* – inspiring and empowering communities to manage their landscapes and support flexibility and responsiveness to local issues.
- *A simple and accessible system* – drawing a clear line of sight between funding and on-ground actions and outcomes.
- *A whole-of-landscape approach* – combining the efforts of land managers, stakeholders and organisations to achieve substantial, visible and long-lasting results.
- *Keeping community and land managers at the centre of how we manage our landscapes* – building strong partnerships with land users, valuing their knowledge and understanding of the landscape.
- *Regional priorities*– focusing on practical actions to allow land managers and stakeholders to address the priorities of their communities in relation to soil, water, pest plants and animals, and biodiversity, to support landscape scale restoration.

For more information about *the Act*, you can download it at: www.legislation.sa.gov.au.

4. Role of South Australia's landscape boards

Landscape boards including Green Adelaide are responsible for facilitating the management of the environment in partnership with key partners and stakeholders.

They implement *the Act* and support all sectors of the community, and all levels of government, by providing strategic leadership for their region's landscape management issues with a focus on land, water, pests and biodiversity.

Landscape boards are statutory bodies and instruments of the Crown, accountable to, and subject to the direction of, the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water.

Funding for landscape board programs and projects can come from a range of sources, particularly landscape and water levies, and from the Australian and South Australian governments. Boards can leverage additional funding through grants and industry partnerships.

The [Landscape Priorities Fund](#) also provides funding to deliver landscape-scale projects through partnerships between boards and multiple partners, including landholders, community groups, industry, Aboriginal groups, not-for-profit organisations, volunteers and research institutions.

A key function of boards is to work with the community and stakeholders to deliver their regional landscape plans. Each board will communicate clearly about how well the plan is achieving its objectives and review the plan when required.

Collaboration and partnerships are critical to achieving successful landscape management outcomes. The projects and programs of landscape boards are delivered through a range of partnerships, for example, with farming systems groups, environmental non-government organisations and local councils. Landscape boards foster and maintain existing partnerships and actively build new ones.

Other key functions include development of water allocation plans for prescribed water resources where applicable and operating as the relevant authority for a range of water, land protection and animal and plant control activities.

Each landscape board has a General Manager who is responsible to the board for managing its business efficiently and effectively, with the exception of Green Adelaide. Green Adelaide has a Director, appointed by the Chief Executive, Department for Environment and Water.



The full functions of landscape boards are set out under section 25 of *the Act*, and they are:

- a) To undertake, promote and integrate the management of natural resources within its region, to build resilience in the face of change and to facilitate integrated landscape management and biodiversity conservation.
- b) Prepare a regional landscape plan and (where relevant) water allocation plans, landscapes affecting activities control policies and water affecting activities control policies in accordance with the LSA Act.
- c) Facilitate the implementation of these plans and policies, and monitor, evaluate and report on the extent of success of the plans and policies in achieving their objectives.
- d) Promote public awareness and understanding of the importance of integrated and sustainable natural resources management within its region.
- e) Provide advice with respect to the assessment of various activities or proposals referred to the Board under the LSA Act or any other Act.
- f) Undertake an active role in ensuring, as is reasonably practical, that the Board's regional landscape plan, water allocation plans and water affecting activities control policies, and the Planning and Design Code under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, form a coherent set of policies and amendment to that Code that is relevant to the activities of the Board is under consideration under that Act, to work with the entity or entities engaged in undertaking the amendment under that Act.
- g) Undertake an active role in ensuring, as is reasonably practical, that the Board's regional landscape plan, landscape affecting activities control policies, water allocation plans and water affecting activities control policies, advance the objects of the Native Vegetation Act 1991 and promote the conservation of wildlife as envisaged under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.
- h) At the request of the Minister, or on its own initiative, to provide advice on any matter relevant to the condition of landscapes within its region or on the management of those landscapes, or to provide any other advice or report that may be appropriate in the circumstances.
- i) Set and adopt clear strategies, and, create strong strategic and funding partnerships and cost effective opportunities.
- j) Work collaboratively with other regional landscape boards, constituent councils, relevant sections of the community and Aboriginal people.
- k) Report to the Minister with respect to the performance of functions as outlined in these sections.

The Green Adelaide Board has additional functions to the above, under section 26 of *the Act*:

The primary function of the Green Adelaide Board will involve leading innovation and achieving positive outcomes across the urban landscapes of the Green Adelaide Region with a particular focus on urban design and building resilience with respect to climate.

To fulfil this primary function, *the Act* establishes that the Green Adelaide Board will adopt 7 key priorities relating to:

- Coastal management
- Water resources and wetlands
- Biodiversity sensitive and water sensitive urban design
- Green streets and flourishing parklands
- Fauna, flora and ecosystem health in the urban environment
- Controlling pest animals and plants
- Nature education

The Board will take a strategic leadership role in relation to these priorities and promote coordination and partnerships with other entities, agencies and authorities.

The Board may (subject to any direction of the Minister) -

- a) Undertake a role in leading, promoting or supporting innovation and positive outcomes in relation to any of these priorities in any part of the state; and
- b) In connection with acting under paragraph (a), establish, support or facilitate programs in places outside the GA Region.



4.1 Landscape board commitments

- Climate Change - Pursue resilient landscapes by mitigating and adapting to climate change.
- First Nations participation - Realise practical opportunities and outcomes for Aboriginal communities and businesses, by bringing more Aboriginal voices into decision-making.
- Community - Enhance the role of communities in leading landscape management.

5. Green Adelaide's strategic focus

Green Adelaide's strategic focus is on:

- Multi-year, large scale and multi-partner programs to achieve our vision. We will work with Kaurna, all levels of government, industry, private landholders and communities to deliver across our seven priorities.
- Partnerships to deliver on iconic programs as outlined in the Green Adelaide Regional Landscape Plan 2021-2026 including:
 - Rewilding our urban landscapes
 - Greening our streets, open spaces and backyards
 - Making Adelaide a National Park City
 - Restoring Kaurna cultural practices
- Enhancing water security to support economic growth, human wellbeing and environmental resilience in a drying climate.
- Improving the value of natural systems and primary production through coordinated state, regional and local programs to prevent, contain, or eradicate priority weeds and pest animals.
- Ensuring biodiverse landscapes are protected, restored, enhanced and climate resilient.
- Running a well governed board with a culture of collaboration and performance excellence.
- Facilitating the management of landscapes by collaborating and ensuring strong partnerships with local government, communities, peak bodies, land holders, Aboriginal groups and other key partners and stakeholders.
- Engaging with community to determine landscape priorities.
- Delivering five-year regional landscape plans, annual business plans, water allocation plans, water affecting activities and landscape affecting activities control policies.
- Providing strategic leadership on the seven integrated priorities set out in the regional landscape plan.
- Setting priorities for investment of funding and publish details of expenditure.
- Promoting public awareness and increasing capacity of people to implement programs.
- Support education programs with schools and other groups.
- Ensuring their plans and policies align with other legislation and government policies.
- Ensuring compliance with *the Act*.
- Supporting a regional Grassroots Grants program.
- Engaging in and supporting the Landscape Priorities Fund.
- Working with partners across the state, including other landscape boards, to oversee implementation of the State Landscape Strategy.

For more read Green Adelaide's Regional Landscape Plan. You can download it at greenadelaide.sa.gov.au/about-us.



6. Green Adelaide Board

6.1 Composition

The Green Adelaide Board consists of up to 10 members (including a presiding member) and no less than 6 and all are appointed by the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water.

Collectively, the members will have the knowledge, skills and experience to carry out board functions.

The term of office of a Green Adelaide Board member is for a term not exceeding 3 years, at which time the member is eligible to apply for re-appointment.

6.2 Role of members

Board members exercise statutory functions that have significant responsibilities and may be subject to high levels of public scrutiny. Board members must ensure that their actions are effective, lawful and justifiable by having a good understanding and working knowledge of the objects of *the Act* and other relevant legislation.

Additionally, board members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that they properly consult and listen to their community and stakeholders.
- Seeking quality information from the Director and other staff and assessing it critically.
- Offering forthright advice in board meetings and questioning, requesting information, raising issues and fully canvassing all aspects of any issue confronting the Board.
- Supporting Board decisions between and outside of their meetings.
- Making decisions according to their own insight and a well-formed understanding of the Board's purpose, principles, their regional landscape plan and the board's policies.
- Exercising any powers for the purpose for which they were conferred,
- Fulfilling their reporting obligations when they become aware of corruption, misconduct or maladministration in public administration (see the [Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2012](#) and the [Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Directions and Guidelines](#)).
- Fulfilling their obligations under the [Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935](#).

6.3 Role of the presiding member

The presiding member, also known as the chair, is the leader member of the Green Adelaide Board, and shares the responsibilities outlined above. The presiding member ensures that relevant policies are brought to the attention of board members and ensures the Board performs appropriately in relation to adherence of its objectives, risk management, accountability to the responsible Minister and that board members act within this framework and their actions are within the required standards of the code of conduct.

In addition, they are expected to:

- Be a strategic leader and form key partnerships at the regional, state and national level.
- Work closely with the Director as the primary contact between the Board and its staff.
- Oversee and provide leadership to improve the performance and effectiveness of the Board in delivering its statutory functions under *the Act*.
- Develop a culture of performance excellence and continuous improvement for the Board and ensure regular performance reviews.



- Facilitate the proceedings of the Board by running effective board meetings and managing the effectiveness, frequency and length of meetings.
- Promote effective management of landscapes and systems across regions and the state, by working with peers, and with a range of partner organisations to coordinate effort across regions and inform national and statewide policy directions.
- Reports to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and provides advice on any Green Adelaide management deemed necessary or any other matter required by the Minister.

6.4 Member expectations

- Preparation and attendance at board meetings is required, unless there is valid reason for an absence.
- Commitment of 2 to 4 days a month to board business. This includes contributions to board meetings and workshops, subcommittees, training, travel time, community engagement and consultation.
- Harnessing existing connections and networks to industry, non-government organisations, Aboriginal communities, and/or government to promote the work of Green Adelaide.
- Note: The presiding member engages in a broader range of functions supporting the board, requiring more time.

6.5 Code of Conduct

Green Adelaide Board members have significant responsibilities that are subject to high levels of public scrutiny.

They are required to exercise a high degree of care and diligence in the performance of their functions. They must act honestly at all times in the performance of their board duties and must not make improper use of information acquired through their position.

Members must disclose any potential conflicts of interest before they are appointed, and they must update the Board with any changes as soon as reasonably practicable.

Appointment to a government board places members in a unique position of trust. The community expects a high standard of ethical behaviour from government boards, and to ensure that this expectation is met, board members operate under a framework of rules dealing with honesty and accountability. The framework is created by three Acts of Parliament:

- the *Public Sector (Honesty and Accountability) Act 1995*, which covers appointees' legal duties
- the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935*, which covers criminal offences committed by public officers, and
- the *Public Sector Act 2009*, which covers immunity from civil liability.

Meeting these standards of conduct is a condition of appointment and failure to do so may result in removal from the Board.

6.6 Remuneration and reimbursement

Green Adelaide Board members are entitled to sitting fees, allowances and reimbursement of some expenses.

The levels of remuneration for Green Adelaide Board members are:

Presiding member: \$37,148 per annum

Members: \$24,265 per annum

This includes an expectation that members will spend up to three hours in preparation / reading time per meeting and including any other out of session meetings and activities.



Reimbursement can also be claimed within certain parameters for meals, accommodation and travel costs (for example, taxis and airfares) and motor vehicle mileage.

7. How to apply

1. Read this information pack about the role and responsibilities of a Green Adelaide Board member.
2. Complete the online application form at greenadelaide.sa.gov.au/board
3. Email a copy of your CV with 3 referees to dew.greenadelaide@sa.gov.au

For hard copy submissions post them to Executive Officer, Green Adelaide at GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001.

Appointment to the Green Adelaide Board is subject to satisfactory completion of formal eligibility checks that may include:

- 100 Point identity check and National Criminal Record Check.
- Australian Securities and Investments Commission Banned and Disqualified Register Check.
- Australian Financial Security Authority National Personal Insolvency Index check.

Need help?

If you would like to discuss the position contact Green Adelaide's Executive Officer via email at dew.greenadelaide@sa.gov.au or call 7424 5760 between 9am-5pm, weekdays.



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