

Reference:



The Barossa Council

17 October 2019

Boundaries Commission
GPO Box 2329 Adelaide SA 5001
Phone: (08) 7109 7145
Email: boundaries.commission@sa.gov.au

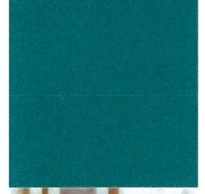
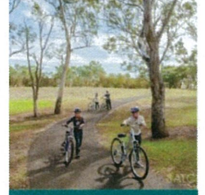
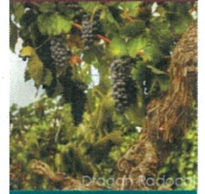
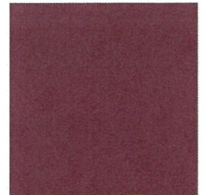
Dear Commissioners

Re: Stage 1 Boundary Realignment Proposal

For some years the "Barossa" has had informal conversations around the many different boundary's that seem to apply to our Barossan community. Council at its September 2019 meeting resolved to proceed with a submission to commence the conversation regarding local government boundaries and the best future structure for our community.

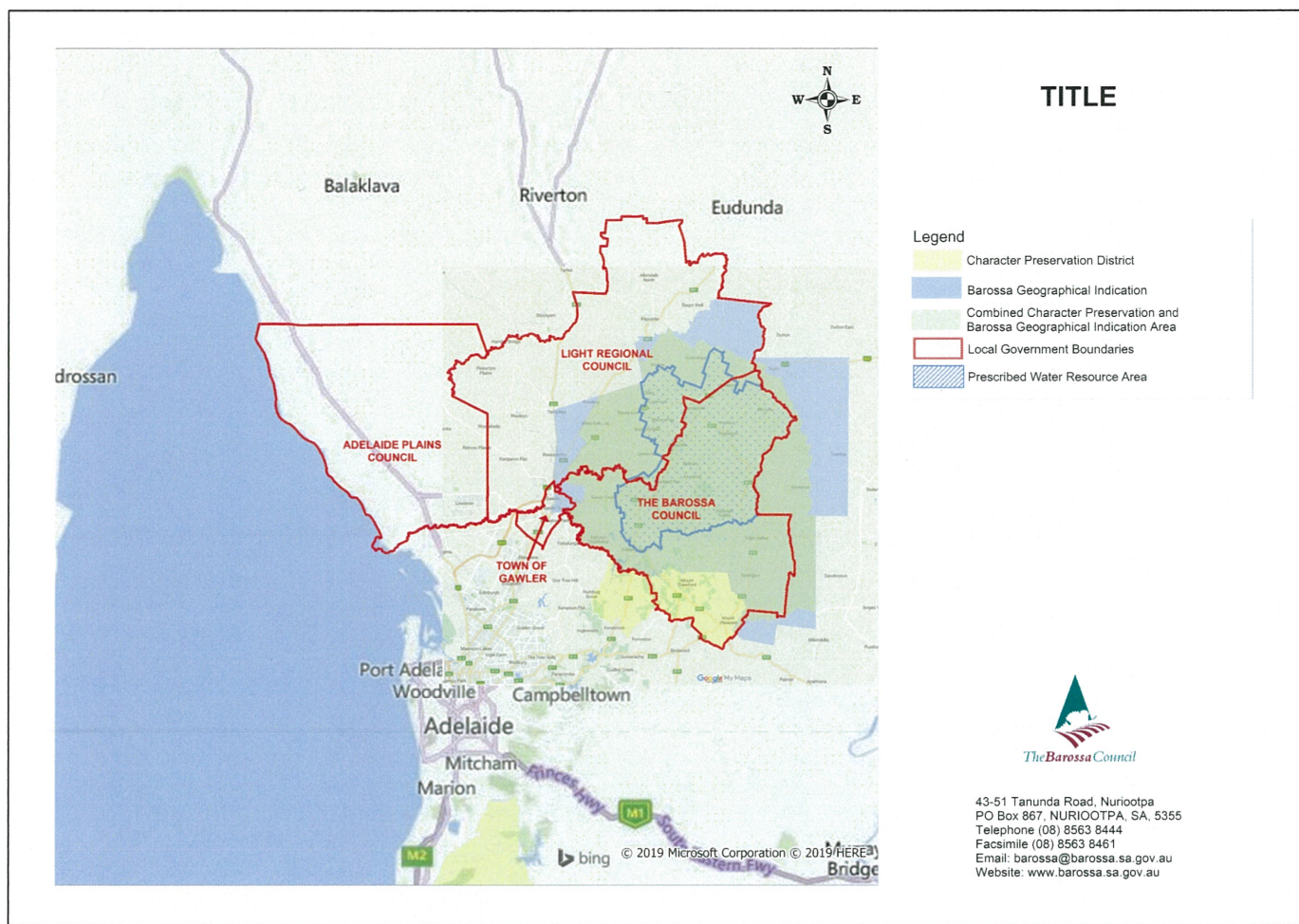
Council Context

The Barossa Council area is located to the north-east of metropolitan Adelaide, between 50 and 80 kilometres from the Adelaide CBD. The Barossa Council area is bounded by the Light Regional Council area in the west and north, the Mid Murray Council area in the east, the Adelaide Hills Council area in the south, and the City of Playford and the Town of Gawler in the west. The 2018 Estimated Resident Population for The Barossa Council area is 24,808. By 2036, the current planning horizon for The Barossa Council, population is projected on current growth rates (excluding new greenfield site or boundary adjustment processes) to reach 31,681; utilising growth scenarios from low to high the population estimates range from 29,817 to 34,576.



premium wine food tourism heritage lifestyle community

Map 1 - Regional Map

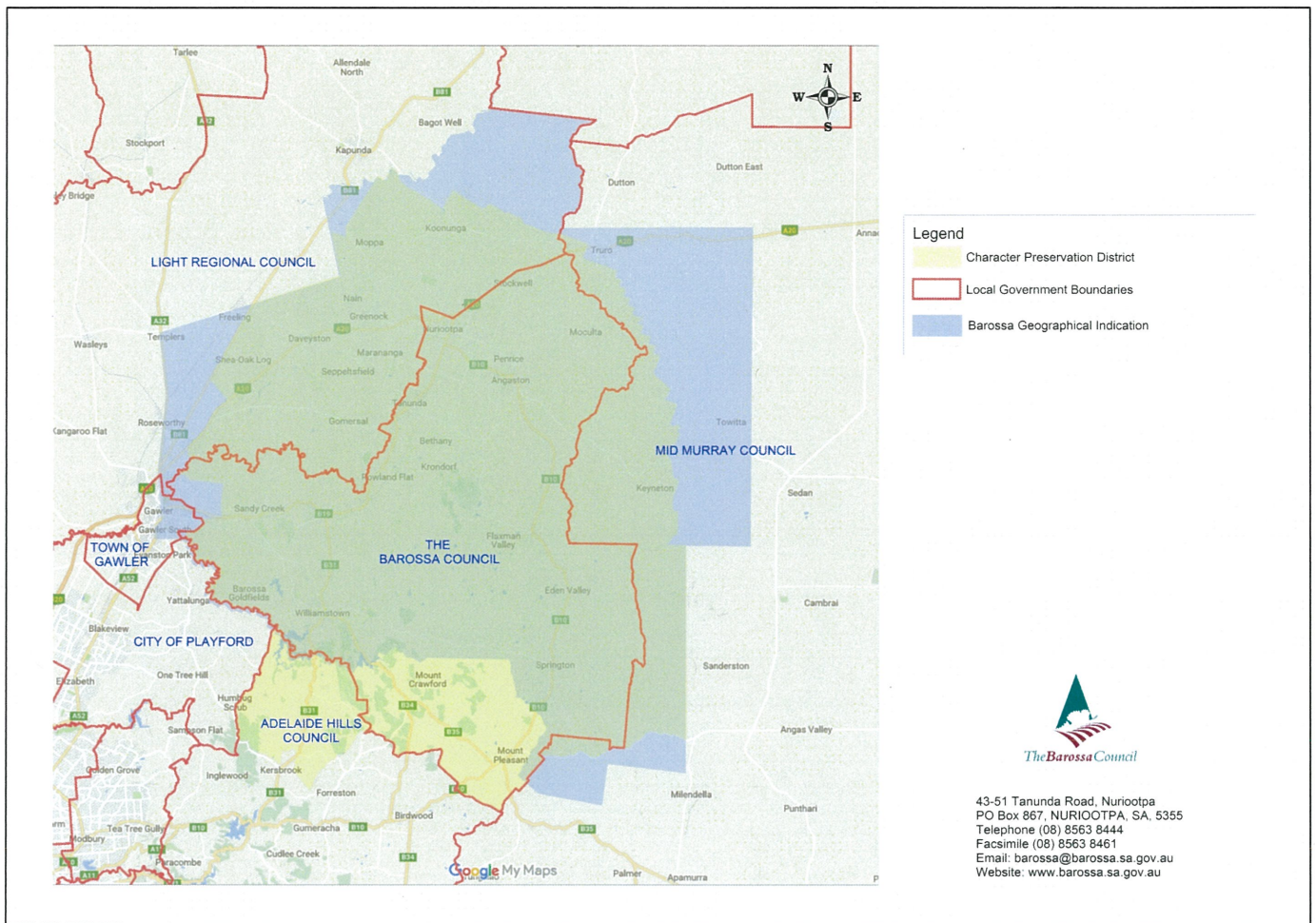


Nature of the Proposal

The Barossa Council (the Council) would like to proceed with a general proposal as set out under Chapter 3, Part 2 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act). The intent of the proposal is to adjust the Council boundary so that the majority of the area covered by the Barossa Geographical Indication (GI) is within the Barossa Council boundaries.

Geographical Indication (GI) is an official description of an Australian wine zone, region or sub-region. The GI system is designed to protect the use of the regional name under international law and is governed by the Geographical Indications Committee, overseen by Wine Australia. The Barossa (zone) is located north of the city of Adelaide in South Australia. It comprises two distinct and complementary regions, Barossa Valley and Eden Valley, which were formalised in 1997.

Map 2 - Barossa GI



The Council believes that a General Proposal under the Act is the most appropriate way to achieve the following outcomes:

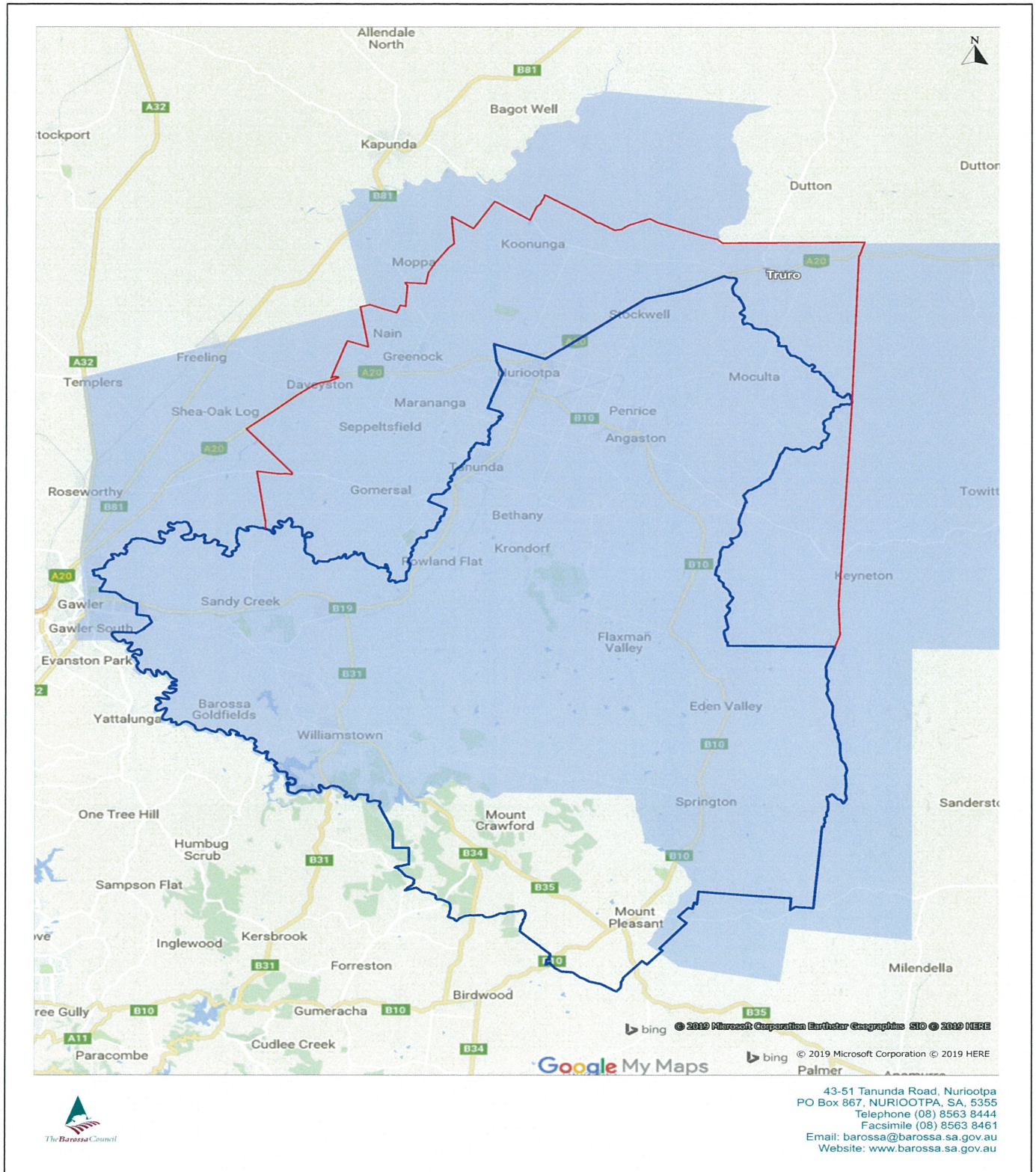
1. A boundary that empowers the Barossa Council to support and oversee the majority of the area known as the Barossa GI;
2. Bringing together the communities of interest that sit within the GI so that the cultural, identity, place, social, economic and environmental interest reside together under the banner of one Council;
3. Looking to maximise the opportunities and better coordinate the land use policy, economic development, tourism integration and service delivery across those communities of interest; and
4. Looking for any potential to deliver efficiencies in service provision as a result of the realignment.

Whilst the strategic goal is to have the Barossa GI in the Barossa Council area, early analysis shows that the proposal will need to be balanced against the interests of the communities that will be affected and as such may not completely align with the GI boundary. Practical consideration of property boundaries, existing roads, Barossa Protection Area and existing communities of interest will be important. The adjustment to Councils boundary, in addition to the general (indicative) proposal outlined above and in Map 3, would include the incorporation of all the land contained within the proposed Springwood Development into the Town of Gawler.

Impacted councils

The proposal impacts The Councils' current boundaries with three of its neighbouring councils, being Light Regional Council, Town of Gawler and the Mid-Murray Council.

Map 3 – Indicative boundary amendment



Map 3 provides an early indicative boundary amendment for the purposes of starting the process and conversation. It is based on the strategic intent as outlined above taking into consideration some of the practical anomalies within the GI area.

Section 26 Principles

In making its decision to proceed with this request for a boundary realignment, the Council has considered the s26 principles and is of the view that there is sufficient justification to move forward with a general proposal which will enable the Council to undertake more detailed investigations and consultation with the Community, affected Councils and industry to further support the proposal.

Other relevant matters

The Council is aware that the Town of Gawler is also currently exploring its own proposal for boundary reform and is likely to make a submission to amend its council boundary. The Town of Gawler report on their website indicates that the proposal will have an impact on the boundary with The Barossa Council and as such is likely to have an impact on this proposal. The Commission may want to take that submission into consideration or at least be cognisant of its existence and potential inconsistencies.

Next Steps

After considering all the possible options to achieve the strategic objectives the council believes that there is sufficient merit in progressing the proposed boundary realignment proposal to Stage2 so that more detailed analysis can take place.

Should the Commission agree to the Council moving to stage 2, the Council would undertake further analysis before making a decision to proceed. Consultation with the community and affected Councils and industry is a key aspect of future stages and would be a critical part of the decision making process.

Contact

Should the Commission require any additional information or wish to discuss this proposal in more detail you can contact Martin McCarthy, Chief Executive Officer on 8563 8399 or via email at mmccarthy@barossa.sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Bim Lange
Mayor



Martin McCarthy
Chief Executive Officer

Enclosed: 3 Full Map Files