

Inner Melbourne Action Plan

Briefing Paper

Action 7.4

Regional Economic Development Statement

Purpose

1. To request the IMAP Implementation Committee's approval of the Economic Development Statement, *'Making Melbourne More Liveable - A Partnership for Regional Economic Prosperity'*.

Background

2. Subsequent to the IMAP Implementation Committee previously considering the draft background document *'Inner Melbourne Action Plan Regional Economic Development Statement'*, the IMAP CEOs/Senior Management Forum considered a finalised background document and DRAFT Economic Development Statement on 18 April 2008.
3. It was agreed by the CEOs/Senior Management Forum that the economic development statement should provide for an integrated economic approach across the IMAP region and should be used to support specific future actions from an economic perspective. It was also agreed that no specific action plan was required.
4. In February 2008 the IMAP Implementation Committee resolved that the Economic Development Statement would provide direction about which IMAP Strategy 7 actions might be included in the IMAP Three Year Implementation Plan (Adopted February 2008).

Comment

'Making Melbourne More Liveable - A Partnership for Regional Economic Prosperity'

5. The Economic Development Statement *'Making Melbourne More Liveable - A Partnership for Regional Economic Prosperity'* facilitates a shared vision for the Inner Region and direction for capitalising on existing and future investment and development opportunities. It will provide a useful forum for dialogue between local government, Victorian and Commonwealth government and business partners within the IMAP region.
6. Following the IMAP Implementation Committee's approval the Statement will be published (in A3 format) and circulated:
 - to all IMAP partner Councils for distribution to Council economic development units and relevant officers;
 - to key stakeholders such as Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, Department of Transport and Department of Planning and Community Development; and
 - be made available via Council websites etc.
7. It should be noted that the completion of this Statement will satisfy IMAP Action 7.4.

Background Document - *'Inner Melbourne Action Plan Regional Economic Development Statement'*

8. The Statement which is based on the background report entitled "Inner Melbourne Action Plan Regional Economic Development Statement" undertaken by Macroplan Australia and the Economic Development Working Group, comprising representatives from the Cities of Yarra, Stonnington, Port Philip and Melbourne in consultation with Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development.
9. It is proposed that this document retain the status of a background document that will be used by economic development units across the Inner Region as an agreed 'tool' to inform policy and future strategy development.

IMAP Three Year Implementation Plan (Adopted February 2008)

10. 'Making Melbourne More Liveable - A Partnership for Regional Economic Prosperity' clearly acknowledges the tertiary education sector, in particular:

"Recognise and support 'key workers' and advance opportunities to increase human capital and skills diversity by building on existing relations with the tertiary education sector..."

This is closely associated with IMAP Action 7.7 'Universities and regional development', the broad scope of which is to 'work collaboratively with universities and TAFE to define and develop a stronger role in regional development'.

11. The Office of Knowledge Capital, (OKC), is a recently formed collaboration to develop and promote Melbourne's knowledge capabilities. Its partners are Australian Catholic University (Melbourne), City of Melbourne, Committee for Melbourne, Deakin University, La Trobe University, Monash University, RMIT University, Swinburne University of Technology, University of Melbourne and Victoria University. The OKC is keen to assist in promoting greater understanding and cooperation between the local councils that host metropolitan campuses and the universities that operate them. To progress this goal, the OKC will shortly conduct a workshop to gather local government views on the scope and approach for a project tentatively entitled "Councils Hosting Universities in Melbourne".
12. The OKC's proposed approach, which will include IMAP councils, is broadly aligned with IMAP Action 7.7 and supported in 'Making Melbourne More Liveable - A Partnership for Regional Economic Prosperity'. The City of Melbourne, through the OKC, could provide the lead council role for this IMAP action. It is therefore proposed that IMAP Action 7.7 be included in the IMAP Three Year Implementation Plan (Adopted February 2008).

Recommendation

- 9.1. That the IMAP Implementation Committee resolves to:
- (a) **approve** the Statement 'Making Melbourne More Liveable - A Partnership for Regional Economic Prosperity' for publication and distribution; and
 - (b) **note** that the background document 'Inner Melbourne Action Plan Regional Economic Development Statement' be retained as a background document to inform future regional policy and strategy development; and
 - (c) **approve** the inclusion of IMAP Action 7.7 into the IMAP Three Year Implementation Plan (February 2008) and the subsequent further investigation of partnerships with the Office of Knowledge Capital.