Regional Development Australia - An Australian Government Initiative

A blue and green logo

Description automatically generatedA group of trees in water

Description automatically generated

**March 2024**

**RDA Far West**

Regional Development Australia

Applicant Information Pack – Committee Member



Contents

Introduction .3

Applicant Information Pack – Members 5

Member position description 5

Member accountabilities and responsibilities 5

Member selection criteria 6

Member selection process description 6

Application Form - Member of an RDA Committee 7

# Introduction

Regional Development Australia Committees (RDA Committees) are critical to the delivery of the Australian Government’s vision for regional Australia; one of strong, connected regions that shape our economic growth and wellbeing, are resilient and responsive to economic and environmental shocks, and are inclusive, vibrant and diverse. These are also regions that our First Nations people have every opportunity to engage in and shape, and where people, businesses and investments thrive.

RDAs are critical to the delivery of this vision, and support the successful implementation of the Australian Government’s Regional Investment Framework (RIF), which guides a more coordinated approach to regional development, underpinned by local engagement.

They help to drive economic growth, innovation and entrepreneurship in regions through facilitating investment in community, industry and the environment. RDAs assist to bridge regional development gaps by working with a broad range of stakeholders across various sectors and supporting the delivery of identified Australian Government strategic priorities.

Whilst the roles of regional and Capital City RDA Committees in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth are somewhat different, the skills and experience requirements of Chairs, Deputy Chairs and members of all Committees remain the same and therefore consistent selection criteria applies to those positions no matter the region.

***NOTE: For the purposes of this document the term ‘region’ refers to both regional and state RDA Committees areas of responsibility.***

There are four key appointment groups to RDA Committees:

* The **Chair** of the Committee – This is a volunteer position responsible for leading the Committee. The Chair has overall responsibility for setting strategic direction and ensuring that objectives and outcomes are achieved. They will have an active role in facilitating investment in people, places, services, and industries and local economies. The Chair also has overall responsibility for ensuring the RDA Committee is well governed. The Australian Government Minister with responsibility for regional development (the Minister), along with state, territory and local government counterparts where appropriate, appoints Chairs. The Department conducts appointment processes for Chairs and therefore details are not included in this guide but are consistent with the appointment principles contained within.
* The **Deputy Chair** and **Committee members** – These are volunteer positions which provide input into strategic direction setting, contribute to reviewing progress in achieving objectives and outcomes, and oversee the effectiveness of governance processes within the Committee. Like the Chair, they also have an active role in facilitating economic investment in people, places, services, and industries and local economies. Following open and transparent application processes, the Chair, on behalf of the RDA Committee:
  + Appoints the Deputy Chair after agreement is provided from the Minister (via the Department) and funding partners (where required); and
  + Appoints members directly without seeking agreement from the Minister or funding partners. Please note, regional South Australian RDA Chairs must ensure that their Local Government Authorities are consulted about proposed member appointments.

The **Director of Regional Development (DRD)** – This is a remunerated position appointed by the Committee. The DRD may be responsible for leading the whole organisation (i.e. an Executive Officer (EO) style role), which may involve managing multiple programs with different but consistent objectives, or the role may be limited to managing RDA program objectives and outcomes only. The scope of the DRD role will be determined by the RDA Committee. The DRD will report directly to the Committee if they are the EO, or report to the Committee through the EO. It is very important that the DRD is also active in regional communities.

# RDA Committee members

RDA Committee members will be active contributors to the outcomes of a diverse organisation of individuals working in a complex environment to deliver high value outcomes for the region. They will be active drivers of economic growth, innovation and entrepreneurship in their region.

They will be expected to leverage existing networks and develop new networks across sectors and diverse communities (especially with First Nations people). RDA Committee members will be required to support the Chair in facilitating investment in people, places, services, and industries and local economies . They must be knowledgeable about the economic, social, cultural and environmental opportunities and challenges facing their region, be well connected and a strong advocate for their community and their regions RDA, and draw their stakeholders together to build and drive economic growth.

Committee members will act with integrity, transparency, respect and accountability, champion gender equality opportunities, work as a team toward a common goal or strategy, and will drive projects that target specific areas of economic development for the region. They will actively support committee governance and management processes.

***Note: For further information please contact the RDA Far West Chair on 0429 466 431***

# Applicant Information Pack – Members

This Applicant Information Pack provides you with the information you need to complete an application for a position with RDA Far West NSW Committee as a member.

This Information Pack contains the following elements:

* Position description, accountabilities and responsibilities, and selection criteria.
* Selection process description including application lodgement instructions.
* Application form.

The application form can be downloaded from [the RDA Far West website](https://www.rdafarwestnsw.org.au), completed electronically offline and emailed to [*admin@rdafarwestnsw.org.au*](mailto:admin@rdafarwestnsw.org.au)

**Women, First Nations Australians, people from diverse cultural backgrounds, and people with disability are encouraged to apply.**

# Member position description

The RDA Committee member is an active contributor to the outcomes of a diverse group of individuals working in a complex environment to deliver high value outcomes for the state or community and region. Members are an active driver of economic growth, innovation and entrepreneurship in their region.

They are expected to leverage existing networks and develop new networks across industry sectors and diverse communities (especially with First Nations people). RDA Committee members are required to support the Chair in facilitating investment in people, places, services, and industries and local economies. They must be knowledgeable about the economic, social, cultural and environmental opportunities and challenges facing their state/region; be well connected and a strong advocate for their region(s); and for regional RDA members, draw their regional communities together to build and drive economic growth.

The RDA Committee member acts with integrity, transparency, respect and accountability, champions gender equality opportunities, works as an effective member of the RDA Committee toward a common goal or strategy, and drives projects that target specific areas of economic development for the state/region. They actively support committee governance and management processes.

# Member accountabilities and responsibilities

RDA Committee members will be accountable to:

* The Chair – for supporting the activities of the Committee
* Their regional RDAs/communities – for delivering outcomes that meet regional needs
* The funding providers – for ensuring that agreed objectives are achieved and resources invested are expended as efficiently and effectively as possible
* RDA Committee staff – for providing a safe and healthy workplace.

Members will be responsible for supporting the RDA Committee to meet the requirements of the charter, deliver against the outcomes, reporting requirements and performance measures specified in the RDA Funding Agreement, and for the good operational and financial governance of the overall organisation.

# Member selection criteria

1. **Leadership and governance** – A successful applicant will have experience and capability in leading organisations, and can demonstrate an understanding of the governance and performance management principles that apply. They will be familiar with the types of governance processes required to manage an organisation, board or committee and have leadership experience.
2. **Delivery focus** – A successful applicant has most likely had experience in actively leading high performing organisations that have had success in achieving outcomes in a difficult and complex environment.
3. **Stakeholder engagement** – To be successful an applicant will have demonstrated experience managing a broad range of stakeholders to achieve successful outcomes.
4. **Representational skills** – A successful applicant has most likely had experience representing either their region, business and/or industry. They can demonstrate they understand the complexities in representing a diverse group such as a region, business and/or industry. They will be able to demonstrate a track record of collaborating with integrity, transparency, respect and accountability.
5. **Commitment to the region** – To be successful, the applicant will have a clear commitment to the region and have strong personal and business networks. They will understand and can articulate the opportunities facing the region. The applicant may have spent substantial time in the region. For standalone capital city RDAs, the applicant should reside in the capital city, and/or have strong relationships with regional and capital city stakeholders.
6. **Commitment to diversity** – To be successful, the applicant will be experienced in fostering successful and respectful relationships with diverse communities, especially First Nations people, and supporting gender equality opportunities.

# Member selection process description

Applying for a Committee member position involves completing this form and providing a brief Curriculum Vitae (CV). These documents should be returned to, attention ***The Chair RDA Far West*** at [*admin@rdafarwestnsw.org.au*](mailto:michael.williams@rdafarwestnsw.org.au)

Once submitted, you should receive email confirmation that your application has been received. The application process involves the following steps and indicative timeframes:

1. **Processing of applications** – once applications close they will be considered by the Selection Panel
2. **Referee and other checks** – The Selection Panel will conduct referee checks, and other checks (e.g. probity checks) if required, before making a final assessment of each applicant. This process may take up to two weeks. The Selection Panel will then provide its recommendation to the Chair for consideration.
3. **Appointment decision** – once all information has been received, the Chair will identify the preferred candidate(s). This may take up to four weeks.
4. **Advice to applicants** – once a final decision has been made, applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application by email and/or post. This may take up to one week.

# Application for the position of member of a Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committee – Application form

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title \* | Choose an item. |
| Full first name \* |  |
| Last name \* |  |
| Post nominal (e.g. OAM, AM, AO) |  |
| Date of birth |  |
| Gender | Choose an item. |
| Do you identify yourself as a First Nations Australian? | Choose an item. |
| Do you identify yourself as a person with disability? | Choose an item. |
| Were you born in Australia? | Choose an item. |
| Do you speak a language other than English at home? | Choose an item. |
| If ‘Yes’, please state the language(s) other than English spoken at home. |  |
| Current employment status? | Choose an item. |
| If employed please state: Position |  |
| Employer |  |
| If self-employed please state:  Business/company name and ABN/ACN |  |
| **Residential address** Street/Road/RMB/RSD |  |
| Suburb/Town |  |
| State |  |
| Postcode |  |
| **Postal address** (if different)  Street/Road/RMB/RSD/PO Box |  |
| Suburb/Town |  |
| State |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Home phone |  |
| Business phone |  |
| Mobile phone |  |
| Email \* |  |
| LinkedIn profile (if available) |  |
| Which RDA Committee are you applying for? \* |  |
| Are you a current Chair/Deputy Chair/member of an RDA Committee? \* | Choose an item. |
| If 'Yes' name of RDA Committee |  |
| Current Board memberships  Name of organisation and position held |  |
| Do you have local government experience? | Choose an item. |
| If 'Yes' please state whether as an elected representative or a local government employee | Choose an item. |
| Name of local government |  |
| How did you find out about applying for an RDA Committee? *(You may select more than one)* | Choose an item. |
| **PLEASE PROVIDE A STATEMENT ADDRESSING YOUR CLAIMS AGAINST EACH OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA**  **(IN THE SECTION BELOW, IT IS IMPORTANT TO ADHERE TO THE SPECIFIED LIMIT OF 250 WORDS PER CRITERIA. EXTRA TEXT BEYOND THIS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED)** | |
| **Leadership and governance \***  A successful applicant will have experience and capability in leading organisations, and can demonstrate an understanding of the governance and performance management principles that apply. They will be familiar with the types of governance processes required to manage an organisation, board or committee and have leadership experience. |  |
| **Delivery focus \***  A successful applicant has most likely had experience in actively leading high performing organisations that have had success in achieving outcomes in a difficult and complex environment. |  |
| **Stakeholder engagement \***  To be successful an applicant will have demonstrated experience managing a broad range of stakeholders to achieve successful outcomes. |  |
| **Representational skills \***  A successful applicant has most likely had experience representing either their region, business and/or industry. They can demonstrate they understand the complexities in representing a diverse group such as a region, business and/or industry. They will be able to demonstrate a track record of collaborating with integrity, transparency, respect and accountability. |  |
| **Commitment to the state/region \***  To be successful, the applicant will have a clear commitment to the region and have strong personal and business networks. They will understand and can articulate the opportunities facing the region. The applicant may have spent substantial time in the region. For standalone capital city RDAs, the applicant should reside in the capital city, and/or have strong relationships with regional and capital city stakeholders. |  |
| **Commitment to diversity** \*  To be successful, the applicant will be experienced in fostering successful and respectful relationships with diverse communities, especially First Nations people, and supporting gender equality opportunities. |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **REFEREES** *Details for two referees are required. Please note that we may not contact both referees.* | |
| **Referee 1**: Name \* |  |
| Relationship to applicant \* |  |
| Phone \* |  |
| Email |  |
| Has a written report been included? \* | Choose an item. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Referee 2**: Name \* |  |
| Relationship to applicant \* |  |
| Phone \* |  |
| Email |  |
| Has a written report been included? \* | Choose an item. |

\* Denotes that this question is mandatory.

**Privacy notice**

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the Department) and RDA Committees collect personal information through the RDA Committee member application form for the purposes of processing applications to join an RDA Committee, in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988.

The Department may/will disclose information to relevant Ministers, state and/or territory departments and, in some cases, relevant local government associations for the purposes of considering applications by an RDA Committee. All information will be stored securely and if you do not provide the information requested your application possibly may not proceed.

The Department’s [privacy policy](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/department/about/privacy-policy.aspx) contains information regarding complaint handling processes and how to access and/or seek correction of personal information held by the Department.  The [Privacy Officer](mailto:privacy@infrastructure.gov.au) can be contacted on (02) 6274 6495 or by email: [privacy@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:privacy@infrastructure.gov.au).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CONSENT and DECLARATION** \* responses to all items on this page are mandatory | | | | | |
| *Please click in the box to indicate your consent or otherwise, to the following items. Where you do not consent, please provide reasons in the comment box below* | | | **I consent** | | **I do not consent** |
| A | I consent to the Department and RDA Far West securely storing my name and contact details provided above for the purpose of considering my application. | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| B | I consent to RDA Far West providing my name or content of this form to the relevant Ministers, state or territory departments, and the relevant Local Government Associations or their representative for the purpose of considering my application. | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| C | I consent to RDA Far West or its agent seeking further information relating to my good character as outlined in the [RDA Code of Conduct and Ethics](https://www.rda.gov.au/members/code-of-conduct), including, but not limited to, collecting information relating to (i) to (vii) below: | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| (i) | my financial circumstances including whether I currently am, or ever have been, bankrupt; | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| (ii) | criminal proceedings that I may be or have been the subject of; | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| (iii) | any current or past convictions for a criminal or civil offence against me except in relation to a conviction that is spent under Part VIIC of the *Crimes Act 1914*; | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| (iv) | any inquiries in relation to me by a professional association, corporate regulatory agency or consumer organisation; | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| (v) | any investigations in relation to me by a Department or Agency of the Commonwealth or a state or territory of Australia; | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| (vi) | any terminations of employment or complaints investigations against me which were the result of a disciplinary or misconduct issue | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| (vii) | my eligibility to hold a Director’s position with an entity regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority or pursuant to the provisions of the *Corporations Act 2001* including information in relation to whether I have previously been disqualified from holding such a directorship. | | ☐ | | ☐ |
| ***Comment on reasons for not consenting to any items:*** | | | | | |
| **If appointed to an RDA Committee:**  *Please tick the box to indicate your consent to the following items.* | | | | | **I consent**  *(please click)* |
| D | I consent to the Department and the RDA Committee publishing my name and other relevant background information as provided above on their website in the context of my role on the RDA Committee. | | | | ☐ |
| E | I understand that by publishing my name on the Department’s and RDA Committee’s website, the Department or Committee has no control over its subsequent use and disclosure. | | | | ☐ |
| F | I consent to the Department and RDA Committee publishing my name as provided above in promotional documents including brochures produced by the Department or state and territory government agencies responsible for regional development in the context of my role on the RDA Committee. | | | | ☐ |
| G | I consent to the Department and the RDA Committee sharing my name and contact details as provided above with other Australian Government, state and territory government agencies, relevant Local Government Associations and other relevant Regional Development Australia Committee members in the context of my role on the RDA Committee. | | | | ☐ |
| H | I agree to abide by the [RDA Code of Conduct and Ethics](https://www.rda.gov.au/members/code-of-conduct). | | | ☐ I agree | |
| I | I certify that all of the above information provided by me in this form is true and correct. | | | ☐ I certify | |
| **Signature (by email or scanned):** | |  | Date: / / | | |

***Note:*** *Submitting this form from your email address will be taken as your ‘electronic’ signature OR you may also include a scanned signature.*

**PRIVATE INTERESTS DECLARATION** \* responses to all items on this page are mandatory

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **NAME** |  |
| **RDA COMMITTEE** |  |

Please answer the following questions by ticking the reply that applies to your personal circumstances.

**If you answer ‘yes’ to any question, please provide details on the page after this form. Please note that answering ‘yes’ to any question does not necessarily preclude you from being appointed.**

Your response will be treated as confidential and will only be used for purposes connected with this proposed appointment. **Note:** Processing of your application will be delayed if details are not provided with this form.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Do you have any disclosable criminal convictions, i.e. convictions as an adult that form part of your criminal history other than those protected by the Spent Convictions Scheme (see VIIC of the Crimes Act 1914)? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. Are you, or have you been, the respondent or defendant in any civil or criminal court action (including as a company director or other office holder)? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. (a) Have you ever been declared bankrupt, entered into a debt agreement under Part IX of the *Bankruptcy Act 1996* (the *Bankruptcy Act*) or entered into a personal insolvency agreement under Part X of the *Bankruptcy Ac*t?   (b) If you are in a partnership, have any of your partners ever been declared bankrupt, entered into a debt agreement under Part IX of the *Bankruptcy Act* or entered into a personal insolvency agreement under Part X of the *Bankruptcy Act*? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| Yes ☐  No ☐  N/A ☐ |
| 1. Has any business or commercial enterprise for which you, or if applicable your partner(s), have had responsibility ever gone into receivership or a similar scheme or arrangement? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. During the last 10 years have you, or if applicable your partner(s), been the subject of a court order in connection with monies owing to another party? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. Have you ever been summonsed or charged concerning non-payment of tax or outstanding tax debts, investigated for tax evasion or defaults, or negotiated with the Australian Taxation Office over outstanding debts? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. Have you ever been the subject of a complaint to a professional body which has been substantiated, or is currently under investigation? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. Have you ever been dismissed from employment because of a discipline or misconduct issue? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. Do you or your immediate family have any financial interest in any company or business, or are you or your immediate family employed or engaged by any company or business, which might have dealings with, or an interest in the decisions of, the office to which you may be appointed? If yes, include advice on the next page on how this conflict of interest would be managed. | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. Are you a lobbyist registered on the Australian Government’s Lobbyists Register or the register of a state or territory? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1. Is there any other information which could be relevant to your suitability for the proposed appointment? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

**PRIVATE INTERESTS – DETAILS**

**If you answered ‘yes’ to any question in the Private Interests Declaration, please provide relevant details here:**

**ASSURANCE**

|  |
| --- |
| I advise that to the best of my knowledge my private, business and financial interests, including taxation affairs, would not conflict with my public duties or otherwise cause embarrassment to myself or to the Government during my term of appointment. I also undertake to advise the responsible Minister and the Chair of the RDA Committee should a situation arise in the future which might cause conflict of interest with my responsibilities under this appointment.  **I declare that the information provided in this Private Interest Declaration statement is true and correct. I am authorised to make this declaration.**  *Note: Submitting this form from your email address will be taken as your ‘electronic’ signature OR you may also include a scanned signature.*  *[Insert first name] [Insert surname name] [Insert day] [Insert month] [Insert year]* |