RESIDENTIAL LAND SUPPLY & DEMAND ASSESSMENT Surf Coast

September 2018

Final



09/09/2018 Final Version 1.1 **Spatial Economics Pty Ltd** ABN: 56 134 066 783 <u>www.spatialeconomics.com.au</u> info@spatialeconomics.com.au



Demand & Supply – Residential Land Surf Coast Shire

Page | 2

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	6
1.0 Introduction	10
1.1 Context	10
1.2 Purpose	10
2.0 Approach & Scope	10
3.0 Population and Dwelling Growth	16
3.1 Historical Population Growth	16
3.2 Historical Population, Dwelling Growth – Major Areas (regions)	18
4.0 Recent Residential Development Activity	21
4.1 Residential Building Approvals	22
4.2 Residential Lot Construction	24
4.3 Location of Residential Development Activity	24
4.4 Lot Construction by Supply Type	26
4.5 Dispersed/Minor Infill Lot Construction	27
4.5.1 Dispersed/Minor Infill Supply – Achieved Densities	27
4.5.2 Dispersed/Minor Infill Supply – Parent Lot Size	28
4.5.3 Dispersed/Minor Infill Supply – Project Size and Yield	28
4.6 Broadhectare Lot Construction	30
4.6.1 Broadhectare Lot Construction – Diversity	30
4.6 Major Infill Lot Construction	31
4.7 Rural Residential Lot Construction	32
4.8 Vacant Residential Lot Sales Pricing	32
5.0 Residential Land Supply	36
5.1 Stock of Zoned Broadhectare/Major Infill Land Stocks	37
5.2 Stock of Un-Zoned Broadhectare Land Stocks	37
5.3 Land Fragmentation	38
5.4 Rural Residential Land Stocks	39
5.4.1 Short-Term Future Lot Construction - Rural Residential	41
5.4.2 Future (Unzoned) Rural Residential Land Stocks	41
6.o Projected Housing Demand	44
6.1 Housing Demand Scenarios	46
6.2 Changing Composition of Future Housing Demand — Household Types	48
6.3 Changing Composition of Future Housing Demand – Age Structure	50
7.0 Adequacy of Land Stocks	53
7.1 Years of Supply – Surf Coast	53



.

LIST OF GRAPHS

Graph 1: Estimated Resident Population Annual Growth Rate, 2001 to 2017 (%) – Surf Coast Shire, Greater Melbourne, Greater Geelong and Rest of Victoria Graph 2: Estimated Resident Population Growth Rate, 2011 to 2017 (%) — Surf Coast SA2s Vs Selected Jurisdictions Graph 3: Residential Building Approvals by Type – Surf Coast Shire Graph 4: Residential Building Approvals by ABS SA2s - 2011 to 2018 (FYTD) Graph 5: Share of Residential Development Activity by Supply Type – Surf Coast Graph 6: Dispersed Infill - Achieved Lot Size Cohorts, 2007 to 2018 Graph 7: Parent Lot Size of Dispersed Infill Projects (Surf Coast Shire), 2007 to 2018 Graph 8: Dispersed Infill Development – Lot Yield & Project Size Distribution, 2007 to 2018 Graph 9: Broadhectare Lot Construction Size Distribution – Surf Coast Shire Graph 10: Median Lot Size (sqm) - Broadhectare Lot Construction Graph 11: Median Sales Values – Vacant residential lots, 2007-2017 – Surf Coast Shire Vs Selected Jurisdictions Graph 12: % Price difference - Vacant residential lots, 2007-2017 – Surf Coast Shire Vs Metropolitan Melbourne and Greater Geelong Graph 13: Median Sales Values (\$) - Vacant residential lots, 2007-2017 - Selected localities Graph 14: Stock of Rural Residential Allotments, 2017 Graph 15: Stock of Rural Residential' Allotments by Lot Size Cohort, 2017 Graph 16: Historic and Projected Demand for Residential Dwellings, 2007 to 2031 Graph 17: Projected Growth in Households by Type, Surf Coast Shire – 2016, 2026 to 2036 Graph 18: Average Annual % Change in Population by Age Cohort, 2016 to 2036 Graph 19: Proportional Population Distribution by Age Cohort, 2016 and 2036

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: 2017 Estimated Population and Population Growth, 2011 to 2017 – Major Areas (regions)Table 2: 2017 Estimated Dwellings & Dwelling Growth, 2011 to 2017 – Major Areas (regions)

Table 3: Occupancy Rates, 2011 to 2016 - Study Areas

Table 4: Residential Subdivision Activity.

Table 5: Median values – Vacant residential lots, Surf Coast Shire and Greater Geelong and selected localities

Table 6: Anticipated Broadhectare/Major Infill Lot Construction Activity, 2018

Table 7: Estimated Years of Broadhectare/Major Infill Residential Land Supply, 2018



LIST OF IMAGES

Image 1: Broadhectare Supply and Lot Construction

Image 2: Major Infill Supply and Lot Construction

Image 3: Dispersed Infill Supply and Construction

Image 4: Rural Residential Supply and Construction

Image 5: Residential Lot Construction Activity, Torquay/Jan-Juc – 2007 to 2018

Image 6: Dispersed Infill Lot Construction – Torquay/Jan-Juc region

Image 7: Zoned and Unzoned Broadhectare Land Supply Areas (Fragmentation), Torquay

Image 8: Surf Coast Shire - Average annual change of households without dependents, 2016 to 2036.

Image 9: Surf Coast Shire - Average annual change of households with dependents, 2016 to 2036

LIST OF MAPS

Map 1: Surf Coast Shire and reporting geographies – Major Areas (regions), ABS 2016 Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2) and Vic In Future Statistical Areas 2016

Map 2: Anticipated Development Timing - Residential Broadhectare/Major Infill Land Stocks (Torquay), 2018

Map 3: Anticipated Development Timing - Residential Broadhectare/Major Infill Land Stocks (Winchelsea), 2018



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following report provides a detailed assessment of the historic, current and future assessment of residential land supply and demand cross the Surf Coast Shire.

This study considers recent activity, projected demand, and adequacy of supply in terms of residential broadhectare and major infill land.

Historic Population and Dwelling Growth

Population Growth

Population growth has increased on an average annual basis of 2.7% or 776 persons per annum from 2011 to 2017. The estimated population in the Surf Coast Shire in 2017 was 31,324. The resident population is located/distributed in:

- Torquay/Jan-Juc 20,052 persons (64% share of total population base);
- Lorne/Anglesea 5,273 persons (17% share of total population base);
- Winchelsea 2,099 (7% share); and
- Rural Balance 3,900 (12% share).

Dwelling Growth

Residential dwelling growth has largely reflected population growth patterns. Dwelling growth as measured from 2011 to 2017 increased on an average annual basis of 351 or 2.0% across the Shire. By region:

- Torquay/Jan-Juc 274 dwellings, 3.2% growth;
- Lorne/Anglesea 59 dwellings, 0.9% growth;
- Winchelsea 5 dwellings, 0.5% growth; and
- Rural Balance 13 dwellings, 0.8% growth.

In terms of dwelling stock measured at 2017, there was:

- Torquay/Jan-Juc 9,498 dwellings (51% share of total dwelling stock);
- Lorne/Anglesea 6,690 dwellings (36% share of total dwelling stock);
- Winchelsea 969 (5% share); and
- Rural Balance 1,619 (9% share).

Residential Development Activity

Residential Building Approvals

As measured from 2002/03 to 2017/18 (FYTD), residential building approvals within Surf Coast Shire averaged 427 per annum. Annual building approval activity have been relatively consistent ranging from an average of 444 between 2002 to 2009, to 394 from 2011 to 2018 (FYTD). The 2017/18 FYTD data suggest that it could experience a similar high peak likened to 2004/2005.

In the last three years, residential building approval activity has averaged approximately 460 per annum.

Residential Lot Construction

From 2007 to 2018 residential lot construction activity has averaged 365 per annum. However, in the last five years, residential lot construction activity has averaged 402. Lot construction activity peaked at 720 in 2016, declining to 140 in 2017 and is illustrating significant volumes at 607 in the current financial year.



Of the lot construction activity measured in the last five years:

- 5% was rural residential (20 lots per annum);
- 5% was major infill (20 lots per annum);
- 19% was dispersed/minor infill (75 lots per annum); and
- 71% was broadhectare (287 lots per annum).

Residential lot construction activity over the last five years was concentrated within the Torquay/Jan-Juc region at 85% of all lot activity or 340 lots per annum. Of the remaining lot construction activity:

- 9% was located in the Lorne/Anglesea region (average of 35 per annum);
- 6% in the Winchelsea region (23 per annum); and
- 1% in the Rural Balance region (4 per annum).

Minor Infill Lot Construction

Over the last three years, the majority of minor infill lot construction activity (57%) was sized less than 500 sqm. Nearly 34% of minor infill lot construction resulted in lots sized greater than 600 sqm. These 'larger' lots were typically constructed outside of the Torquay/Jan-Juc region.

Broadhectare/Major Infill Lot Construction

Of the broadhectare lot construction activity in the last five years:

- 2% were compact (sized less than 300 sqm);
- 58% were suburban (sized 300 to 500 sqm);
- 37% were large suburban (500 to 1,000 sqm); and
- 3% low density suburban (over 1,000 sqm).

This large diversity of lot size ranges has been a response by the development industry and the Surf Coast Shire council to affordability/pricing points, consumer preferences and land use planning objectives.

There is a general trend of increasing densities of broadhectare lot construction activity. In 2009, the median size of a constructed broadhectare lot was 653 sqm, declining to around 450 sqm in recent times. Current broadhectare lot construction densities across Surf Coast are comparable to that across the municipal area of Geelong.

Residential Vacant Land Sales Pricing

Since 2007, the median sales value of vacant residential lots has modestly increased in Surf Coast Shire from \$200,000 in 2007 to \$278,000 in 2017 – an annual average growth of 3.4% per annum. During this period, Greater Geelong increased from \$142,000 to \$205,000 – an annual average growth of 3.7% per annum.

From a pure price perspective, the broadhectare land market in Torquay has attracted a higher premium compared to all areas in the Greater Geelong and Surf Coast region. Although there is diversity within inland localities and those closer to Geelong, Torquay has continued to attract higher values despite the continued growth of neighbouring areas of Armstrong Creek and Mount Duneed.



Residential Land Supply

Broadhectare & Major Infill Land Stocks

In total, the Surf Coast Shire currently has capacity for the future provision of approximately 6,773 additional dwellings (including areas that are as yet, not zoned for residential development purposes), in broadhectare/major infill sites.

This capacity is comprised of:

- 4,131 unzoned broadhectare lots (61% of supply); and
- 2,642 zoned broadhectare lots (39% of supply).

Feedback from the development industry regarding their market expectations and development intentions suggests that over the next five years on average, **416 lots/dwellings** per annum will be constructed within existing zoned broadhectare/major infill sites. Historically, over the last three years, broadhectare/major infill lot construction has averaged **382** per annum. It is expected and highly probable that this level of anticipated development activity will likely occur.

Rural Residential

As at November 2017 across the Surf Coast municipal area there was a total lot stock of 1,205 rural residential allotments. Of this stock only 127 lots (11%) were vacant. The majority (61%) of the rural residential lot stock is located in the Torquay/Jan-Juc region.

Approximately 51% of the rural residential lot stock (both occupied and vacant) is less than one hectare in size. Only 13% of the rural residential lot stock (or 151 lots) is sized greater than three hectares.

There are currently two areas identified for future Low Density Residential (LDRZ) land stocks, they are currently zoned Farm (FZ). One is located in Moriac (11.5 hectares) and the other in Torquay (38 hectares).

Projected Housing Demand

Spatial Economics have developed a number of projected demand scenarios based on the most recently available evidence. These demand scenarios are outlined below.

Scenario One: idForecast – dwelling forecasts undertaken for the Shire of Surf Coast by ForecastID. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 382 per annum or 1.8% per annum growth rate (note this is trend growth as illustrated from 2011 to 2016).

Scenario Two: VIF2016 – current State Government dwelling projections. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 392 per annum or 1.9% per annum growth rate.

Scenario Three: Recent Trend – based on actual recent trend growth over the last three years continuing to 2031 and being constant. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 490 per annum or 2.3% per annum growth rate would result.

The largest and fastest growth in households across the Surf Coast Shire will be households with no children (*lone person and couples without children households*), growing at an average annual rate of 2.5% or 201 households per annum from 2016 and 2036. This household type is projected to represent 57% of the change in household structure to 2036.

The next largest (in terms of absolute growth) is households with children (*couples with kids & single parent families*), projected to grow at 96 households per annum or a 1.7% growth rate, with the larger gain expected to occur between 2026 and 2036.

The Victorian State Government has modified the FHOG to increase the FHOG to \$20,000 for eligible first-home buyers who buy or build their new home valued up to \$750,000 in regional Victoria. The Surf Coast Shire is defined as a regional area for the purpose of the FHOG.



Expressed demand levels for housing will increase during the implementation of the newly structured FHOG across Surf Coast. However, once this cease, the level of expressed housing demand will be normalised (based on natural increase, household formation and population migration levels i.e. underlying demand).

Adequacy of Land Stocks

Years Supply – Broadhectare & Major Infill

In terms of **zoned** broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks it is estimated based on the identified supply and projected demand scenarios, there are sufficient land stocks to satisfy between 5 to 7 years of demand across the Surf Coast municipality.

In addition, there are sufficient **unzoned** broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks (this includes the Spring Creek land release area) to satisfy between 9 to 12 years of demand.

Spatial Economics consider that the total stock of zoned broadhectare residential land is sufficient to meet short-term requirements. However, in the interests of maintaining both a competitive land supply market and meeting underlying dwelling requirements, it is recommended that the stock of zoned broadhectare residential land be increased in the short term.



1.0 Introduction

1.1 Context

The following report is a residential land supply and demand assessment for the Surf Coast Shire.

The assessment includes:

- the identification of historical and current residential lot construction activity by supply type and location;
- identification of all zoned and unzoned major residential land supply stocks including estimates of lot yields on a project by project basis;
- identification of anticipated broadhectare/major infill residential lot construction activity (development timing);
- examination of the quantum and composition of future residential demand;
- presentation of potential future demand scenarios; and
- estimation of the years of supply of undeveloped broadhectare and major infill residential land stocks.

The assessment provides a robust and transparent assessment of the supply and demand for residential land across Surf Coast. Where appropriate, comparisons to other regional Victorian municipalities/urban centres are provided to further inform the relative 'state of play". The assessment will facilitate informed decision making in terms of the existing and future broadhectare residential land supply requirements.

In addition, the information will be of assistance to other related planning processes such as infrastructure and service planning.

1.2 Purpose

The monitoring of land supply is a key tool to assist in the management and development of growth across the Surf Coast Shire. The primary purpose of monitoring residential land supply is to improve the management of urban growth by ensuring that council, public utilities, government and the development industry have access to up-to-date and accurate information on residential land availability, development trends, new growth fronts, and their implications for planning and infrastructure investment.

The following report provides accurate, consistent and updated intelligence on residential land supply, demand and consumption. This in turn assists decision-makers in:

- maintaining an adequate supply of residential land for future housing purposes;
- providing information to underpin strategic planning in urban centres;
- linking land use with infrastructure and service planning and provision;
- taking early action to address potential land supply shortfalls and infrastructure constraints; and
- contributing to the containment of public sector costs by the planned, coordinated provision of infrastructure to service the staged release of land for urban development.

2.0 Approach & Scope

The following provides a brief outline of the major methodologies and approach in the assessment of recent residential lot construction, residential land supply areas, dwelling demand scenarios and determination of assessing adequacy of residential land stocks.



The methodology that Spatial Economics has employed for this project is based on the simple premise of matching the supply type with demand. This methodology assesses recent construction and future supply using the same criteria with the supply type definitions based on outcomes and on a lot by lot basis rather than administrative boundaries.

The methodology used by Spatial Economics is consistent with other State Government methodologies around Australia, including the Victorian State Governments Regional Urban Development Program. The criteria used to define the supply types are explained below.

Future Dwelling Requirements

The Victorian State Government population and household projections undertaken by the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (VIF2016) provide a sound basis for potential dwelling growth requirement projections as they are developed in the context of State population growth.

Population and dwelling projections undertaken by id Consulting commissioned by Surf Coast Shire are also included as a possible future demand scenario.

In addition, alternative dwelling demand scenarios are presented based on actual recent growth trends and the scenario of sustained high growth.

Land Supply Type Definitions

- 1. **Broadhectare** is defined as residential development on greenfield sites (sites that have not been used previously for urban development purposes or previously subdivided for normal/urban density development) and typically located on/or near the urban fringe.
- 2. *Major Infill* is defined by development or capacity greater than 10 lots/dwellings per site within the established urban area. There is often debate and "shades of grey" to the difference of major infill and broadhectare. Often, major infill can be described as remnant broadhectare i.e. greenfield land left undeveloped and urban development subsequently surrounding the site. Major infill sites are also characterised by having had no previous urban use/ activity.
- 3. **Dispersed Infill** is from a lot/dwelling construction perspective, residential development occurring within the established urban area (not on broadhectare or major infill sites) that yield less than 10 dwellings per individual construction project. Typically, it entails 'backyard' style subdivision projects.
- 4. *Rural Residential* is from a dwelling construction perspective, all activity on land zoned Rural Residential and Low Density Residential.



The images below illustrate the supply types.



Image 1: Broadhectare Supply and Lot Construction

Image 2: Major Infill Supply and Lot Construction





Image 3: Dispersed Infill Supply and Construction



Image 4: Rural Residential Supply and Construction





Geography

The following geographic areas are utilised for the land supply assessment and demographic analysis.

Map 1: Surf Coast Shire and reporting geographies – Major Areas (regions), ABS 2016 Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2) and Vic In Future Statistical Areas 2016



Major Areas (regions): These areas are derived by Spatial Economics and includes the localities of Torquay -Jan Juc, Lorne- Anglesea, Winchelsea and Rural Balance. These Major Areas (regions) are utilised to assess both the projected demand and supply of residential land stocks.

2016 ABS SA2: Australian Bureau of Statistics geographic definition that are a general-purpose medium sized area built from whole SA1s. Their aim is to represent a community that interacts together socially and economically. Surf Coast Shire comprises of three SA2 areas and with Lorne-Anglesea and Winchelsea SA2s geographically larger than the Major Areas (regions). The Torquay SA2 is slightly smaller than the corresponding major area (region) as it excludes a rural portion to its east. When combined, the 2016 SA2s are do not match the 2016 Surf Coast LGA.

VIFSAs: Victoria in Future (VIF) is now published for a series of newly-developed geographic areas known as Victoria in Future Small Areas (VIFSA). VIFSAs are based on SA2s but adjusted so as to be exact subsets of LGAs. In some cases, SA2s are aggregated, some are split, and a small number of



VIFSAs are identical to SA2s. Surf Coast Shire comprises two VIFSAs – Torquay/Jan Juc and Surf Coast Rural.

Residential Lot Construction

Residential lot construction has been determined via the assessment of the residential cadastre and the application of this cadastre to the land supply types identified above.

A constructed lot is defined by the year of construction and the finalisation of certificate of title.

Lot construction is only captured if it is for residential purposes.

It is noted, where new lot construction occurs (typically within mixed use type zones) and one lot results in multiple dwellings, the dwelling count is collected. Lot construction from the following assessment will largely result in one net additional dwelling.

Construction activity has been assessed on an annual financial year basis from 2007 to 2018.

Lot and dwelling construction has been undertaken for the following supply types:

- Rural Residential;
- Dispersed Infill;
- Major Infill; and
- Broadhectare.

Lot Yields

Lot yields on a site basis has been undertaken for only broadhectare and major infill residential supply.

In establishing the lot yield for each individual land parcel, the following information was used: incidence and location of native vegetation, zoning, natural features such as creeks, escarpments, floodways, localised current/recent market yields, ability to be sewered, existing studies such as structure plans.

In addition to site specific issues, 'standard' land development take-outs are employed, including local and regional. The amount/proportion of such take-outs are dependent on the land parcel i.e. a 1ha site will have less take-outs than say a 50ha site. Further intelligence and verification is sourced from the local land development industry and Council officers.

Years of Supply

With the amount of supply and demand estimated, adequacy is described in years of supply. For example, it can be stated that there are X years of supply based on projected demand within a given geographic area.

In assessing the number of years of major residential land supply (broadhectare and major infill), only a component of the total projected demand is apportioned to estimate future demand. The remainder is apportioned for future demand of other forms of residential supply such as dispersed infill and rural residential.



3.0 Population and Dwelling Growth

Key Findings

Population growth has been particularly strong across Surf Coast Shire, growing at an annualised rate of 2.7% or 776 persons from 2011 to 2017. This population growth rate is significantly higher than its regional counterparts, Greater Ballarat (1.7%) and Greater Geelong (2.1%).

The most significant annual average population growth between 2011 and 2017 occurred in the following major areas:

- 4.2% or 724 persons per annum in Torquay-Jan Juc;

- 0.7% or 35 persons per annum in Lorne-Anglesea; and

- 0.5% or 18 persons per annum in Rural Balance.

Torquay-Jan Juc accounted of over 93% of the population gain in the Shire between 2011 and 2017.

Dwelling growth has largely reflected population growth, growing at an annualised rate of 2.0% or 351 dwellings per annum from 2011 to 2017.

The most significant annual average dwelling growth between 2011 and 2017 occurred in the following major areas:

- 3.2% or 274 dwellings in Torquay-Jan Juc;

- 0.9% or 59 dwellings in Lorne-Anglesea; and

- 0.8% or 13 dwellings in Rural Balance.

Torquay accounted for nearly 80% of dwelling growth within the Shire between 2011 and 2017.

In terms of dwelling stock measured at 2017, major areas with the most significant dwelling stocks:

- 9,498 dwellings located in Torquay-Jan Juc — 51% of the Shire's dwelling stock;

- 6,690 dwellings located in Lorne-Anglesea— 36% of the dwelling stock;

- 1,619 dwellings located in Rural Balance – 9% of the dwelling stock; and

- 969 dwellings located in Winchelsea – 5% of the dwelling stock.

The following section of the report details actual population and dwelling growth for Surf Coast and its composite small areas. In addition, where appropriate, comparison to other Victorian municipalities/urban centres is undertaken.

3.1 Historical Population Growth

Historical Population – Surf Coast SA2 areas

The following assessment of historical population growth is sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Estimated Resident Population (ERPs) publication. The Torquay, Lorne-Anglesea and Winchelsea population estimates are collected at an ABS SA2 level.

Although the Surf Coast SA₂ areas are slightly inconsistent with the major areas (regions), it is still highly valuable as a source to examine historic rates of population growth and comparative population growth to other jurisdictions.

The ERP is calculated each year by the ABS and re-based after each Census with revised (final) estimates then re-published for the preceding five years. Most LGA level projections use ERPs as a base, rather than Census counts. Census data is great for telling us about the characteristics of the population, while ERPs are a better measure of the total number of people who normally reside in an area.



The most recent estimate of the Surf Coast's population is 31,324 people at 30 June 2017. The population grew by 879 people (2.9%) from the 30 June 2016 figure. This figure is the last available preliminary population estimate before all Estimated Resident Population (ERPs) are rebased in late 2018 using data from the 2016 Census and the preliminary 2017 total.

Historically, the Surf Coast Shire has consistently exceeded the growth rates experienced in Greater Geelong. Noteworthy is the significant higher annual growth rates in Surf Coast compared to metropolitan Melbourne during the 2005 to 2012 period. In the last five years, the Shire's growth rate has been relatively stable and are comparable to those of metropolitan Melbourne.



Graph 1: Estimated Resident Population Annual Growth Rate, 2001 to 2017 (%) – Surf Coast Shire, Greater Melbourne, Greater Geelong and Rest of Victoria

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Estimated Resident Population **Note:** Rest of Victoria excludes Greater Geelong

During the 2011-2016 period, Surf Coast Shire experienced net gains from across metropolitan Melbourne with the largest coming from Wyndham City (198 persons), Moonee Valley City (106) and Hobsons Bay (104). Meanwhile, there was an overall net loss to Greater Geelong (nearly 500 people) between 2011 to 2016.

The majority of the population loss to Greater Geelong were people aged 12 to 34 years. This suggests the departure of school aged and young adults moving to Greater Geelong for education (secondary and tertiary) and to access services and employment opportunities. In contrast, the Shire experienced some gain of people aged over 35 years between 2011 and 2016.

Historical Population – A Comparison

Surf Coast Shire, particularly the Torquay SA₂, has shown strong and increasing growth in population in recent years. The resident population growth rate of Torquay compared to two major regional centres – Geelong and Ballarat are significantly greater. Torquay from 2011 to 2017 grew at an average annual rate of 4.2% compared to Ballarat at 1.7% and Geelong at 2.1%.







* Includes Jan Juc area

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Estimated Resident Population

The Torquay and Grovedale SA2s (4.1%) had similar population growth rates for this period. Grovedale SA2 is adjacent to Torquay SA2 and features the development fronts of Armstrong Creek (part), Marshall and Grovedale. The SA2 areas of Lorne-Anglesea and Winchelsea experienced significantly lower growth rates compared to the Torquay SA2 (less than 1% combined).

Melton and Wyndham LGAs – designated growth areas of metropolitan Melbourne experienced population growth rates of 4.8% and 6.4% respectively between 2011 and 2017.

3.2 Historical Population, Dwelling Growth - Major Areas (regions)

Analysis has been undertaken to further understand the dynamics of recent population growth, dwelling construction across the four major areas of Torquay-Jan Juc, Lorne-Anglesea, Winchelsea and Rural Balance. Australian Bureau of Statistics data from the 2011 and 2017 Census along with population and dwellings information from .id consulting has been used to identify the scale of recent population and dwelling change by these study areas.

Population & Dwelling Change – Study Areas

Rates of population and dwelling growth across Surf Coast Shire has been strong as measured from 2011 to 2017.

Population growth has increased on an average annual basis of 2.7% or 776 persons per annum. The estimated population in Surf Coast Shire is 2017 was 31,324. The location/distribution of the 2017 estimated resident population is shown in Table 1.



	2017 Population		2(lation	
Major Areas	Estimated 2017	Distribution (%)	Avg % Growth	Avg Growth	Distribution of Avg % Growth
Torquay-Jan Juc	20,052	64%	4.2%	724	93.3%
Lorne-Anglesea	5,273	17%	0.7%	35	4.5%
Winchelsea	2,099	7%	0.0%	-1	-0.1%
Rural Balance	3,900	12%	0.5%	18	2.3%
Surf Coast Shire	31,324	100%	2.7%	776	100%

 Table 1: 2017 Estimated Population and Population Growth, 2011 to 2017 – Major Areas (regions)

Source: Surf Coast Shire profile.id; Australian Bureau of Statistics. Population and housing Census

The rate and quantum of population growth has largely followed the location of residential broadhectare land development. Population growth was strongest in Torquay/Jan-Juc, growing at an average annual rate of 4.2% or 724 persons per annum. This average growth accounted for over 93% of the Shire's population growth while the other coastal major area of Lorne-Anglesea was the next highest as it accounted for 4.5% of population growth. Both inland major areas were relatively stable by comparison.

Residential **dwelling growth** has largely reflected population growth patterns. Dwelling growth as measured from 2011 to 2017 increased on an average annual basis of 351 dwellings or 2.0% across the Surf Coast Shire. The estimated number of dwellings for the Shire at 2017 was 18,776. Table 2 highlights the location/distribution of dwellings across the study areas.

	2017 Dwellings		2	llings	
	Estimated Distribution		Avg %	Avg Growth	Distribution of
Major Areas	2017	(%)	Growth	U	Avg % Growth
Torquay-Jan Juc	9,498	51%	3.2%	274	78.2%
Lorne-Anglesea	6,690	36%	0.9%	59	16.7%
Winchelsea	969	5%	0.5%	5	1.5%
Rural Balance	1,619	9%	0.8%	13	3.7%
Surf Coast Shire	18.776	100%	2.0%	351	100%

 Table 2: 2017 Estimated Dwellings & Dwelling Growth, 2011 to 2017 – Major Areas (regions)

Source: Surf Coast Shire forecast.id, Australian Bureau of Statistics. Population and Housing Census. Forecast ID (2017)

The distribution of the 2017 dwelling stock was more evenly spread compared to the distribution of the population at 2017. This is not to dissimilar to other coastal areas throughout Australia where there are more dwellings compared to resident population. Torquay leads in the growth of dwellings with an average annual rate of 274 or 3.2%. This accounts for more than 78% of the Shire's dwelling growth. The relative distribution of the population and dwelling stock illustrates the higher prevalence of families with children located in Torquay.

The Surf Coast Shire and other coastal areas throughout Australia where there are more dwellings compared to resident population result in a higher vacancy rate. As noted thus far, it is anticipated that in the short to medium term, Torquay-Jan Juc will increasingly be the location of population growth across Surf Coast Shire, primarily due to the relative availability of broadhectare residential land stock, its location within the wider Geelong region and high level of amenity.

However, a smaller source of population growth has been driven by the increase in the occupancy of holiday houses that have been converted to places of residence. Between 2011 and 2016, there has been a 1.8% increase in the Shire's occupancy rate. This may be more prevalent in the future as demographic and lifestyle decisions change. Albeit small, all major areas (regions) have experienced an increase in occupancy rates between 2011 and 2016 with Torquay/Jan-Juc seen the most increase



during this period. Noteworthy is the significantly lower occupancy rate in Torquay-Jan Juc at 2016 compared to rates in Winchelsea and the Rural Balance.

	Occupancy Rates				
Major Areas	2011	2016	Difference (%)		
Torquay-Jan Juc	70.6%	72.3%	1.7%		
Lorne-Anglesea	31.3%	32.0%	0.7%		
Winchelsea	87.0%	87.1%	0.1%		
Rural Balance	83.2%	83.9%	0.7%		
Surf Coast Shire	57.8%	59.6%	1.8%		

Table 3: Occupancy Rates, 2011 to 2016 – Study Areas

Source: Surf Coast Shire profile.id; Australian Bureau of Statistics. Population and Housing Census

Key Issues

Whilst the Surf Coast Shire experienced moderate/strong growth in the last decade, it is Torquay-Jan Juc that continues to experience the strongest population and housing growth. This growth is comparable to some areas found on the peri-urban areas of metropolitan Melbourne (Melton) and Greater Geelong (Grovedale). Torquay-Jan Juc's coastal lifestyle, access to Geelong and residential land availability has made it highly desirable in the past decade. There are no socio-demographic factors that would indicate that this strong underlying demand will not continue. With increasing rates of population growth, it is imperative that strategic land use policy plans for a range of possible future demand levels.



4.0 Recent Residential Development Activity

Key Findings

Development Activity

As measured from 2002/03 to 2017/18 (FYTD), residential building approvals within Surf Coast Shire averaged 427 per annum. Annual building approval activity have been relatively consistent ranging from an average of 444 between 2002 to 2009, to 394 from 2011 to 2018 (FYTD). The 2017/18 FYTD data suggest that it could experience a similar high peak likened to 2004/2005.

In the last three years, residential building approval activity has averaged approximately 460 per annum.

The vast majority of building approvals (92%) since 2002/03 have been for separate houses with the residual being semi-detached dwellings/units/apartments.

From 2007 to 2018 residential lot construction activity has averaged 365 per annum. However, in the last five years, residential lot construction activity has averaged 402. Lot construction activity peaked at 720 in 2016, declining to 140 in 2017 and is illustrating significant volumes at 607 in the current financial year.

Of the lot construction activity measured in the last five years: 5% was rural residential (20 lots per annum); 5% was major infill (20 lots per annum); 19% was dispersed/minor infill (75 lots per annum); and 71% was broadhectare (287 lots per annum).

Residential lot construction activity over the last five years was concentrated within the Torquay/Jan-Juc region at 85% of all lot activity or 340 lots per annum. Of the remaining lot construction activity:

- 9% was located in the Lorne/Anglesea region (average of 35 per annum);
- 6% in the Winchelsea region (23 per annum); and
- 1% in the Rural Balance region (4 per annum).

Over the last three years, the majority of **minor infill** lot construction activity (57%) was sized less than 500 sqm. Nearly 34% of minor infill lot construction resulted in lots sized greater than 600 sqm. These 'larger' lots were typically constructed outside of the Torquay/Jan-Juc region.

Of the **minor infill** lots constructed 72% yielded two or over net lots/dwellings, 10% of lot construction activity was within projects yielding 6 to 9 dwellings. Approximately 50% of all dispersed infill projects were sourced from parent lots sized from 500 to 1,200 sqm.

As previously outlined, broadhectare lot construction activity has averaged 287 lots per annum over the last five years. Over the last three years, broadhectare lot construction has increased substantially to an average of 369 per annum. Of the broadhectare lot construction activity in the last five years:

- 2% were compact (sized less than 300 sqm);
- 58% were suburban (sized 300 to 500 sqm);
- 37% were large suburban (500 to 1,000 sqm); and
- 3% low density suburban (over 1,000 sqm).

Vacant Residential Lot Sales Activity

The median sales value of a vacant residential allotment in 2017 was:

- \$278,000 across the Surf Coast Shire);
- \$281,000 in Torquay;
- \$158,000 in Winchelsea;
- \$185,000 in Armstrong Creek; and
- \$240,000 in Ocean Grove



-

Section 4.0 of this report details the recent activity of residential lot construction and dwelling approvals in Surf Coast Shire. Residential lot construction activity is detailed from 2007 to 2018.

This section of the report details residential lot construction by location, supply type, achieved densities, project size/yield and sales pricing of constructed residential lots.

Where appropriate, comparisons to other regional Victorian jurisdictions is included.

4.1 Residential Building Approvals

Although Surf Coast had a peak in 2004/05 of nearly 600 residential dwellings approved, residential building approval activity has been relatively consistent ranging approximately 400 to 450 dwellings per annum since 2002. Albeit slightly lower since 2011 at 394 approvals per annum, there was a fundamental and consistent upward shift in the volume of approval activity in the last two years. Please note that the 2017/18 building approvals data is incomplete and is the financial year-to-date at May 2018.

This consistent demand for new housing is consistent with population data from the Census.

The vast majority of building approvals (92%) since 2002/03 have been for separate houses with the residual being semi-detached dwellings/units/apartments. This proportion of non-separate dwellings has consistently remained under 10% since 2006. Prior to this, medium density dwelling approvals peaked at 16% of all approval activity in 2004/05 and 14% the year after. Graph 3 illustrates residential dwelling approval activity by type for the Surf Coast Shire.



Graph 3: Residential Building Approvals by Type – Surf Coast Shire

* 2017-2018 Financial year to date (to May 2018) Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Since 2011, the Surf Coast municipality has averaged 394 building approvals per annum with 2017/18* being the highest peak (at 536 approvals) since 2004/2005.

An examination of ABS SA2 dwelling approvals data from 2011 to 2018 (FYTD) reveals most of these building approvals have been for separate houses in Torquay with a significant increase from 202 dwellings in 2012/13 to nearly 300 dwellings in 2014/2015. Total approvals in the Torquay SA2 in 2017/2018* has exceeded the Shire's annual average of 394 approvals at 404. This dominance is



consistent with the population and dwelling growth in the previous section of this report. Graph 4 illustrates building approval activity by type for all the SA2s in Surf Coast Shire.



Graph 4: Residential Building Approvals by ABS SA2s - 2011 to 2018 (FYTD)

* 2017-2018 Financial year to date (to May 2018) Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Lorne-Anglesea comprised of the second most number of approvals for separate houses since 2011 with its scale been consistent at approximately 50-60 dwellings per annum. Building approvals in Winchelsea made up an average of 8% of total residential building approvals between 2011 and 2018* and were all for separate houses.



4.2 Residential Lot Construction

Analysis has been undertaken to determine, on a lot by lot basis, the location and amount of residential lot construction across the municipal area of Surf Coast by financial year from 2007 to 2018. Lot construction activity has been classified into distinct supply types and/or supply locations.

Compared to building approvals, residential lot construction is markedly more cyclical. From 2007 to 2018 residential lot construction activity has averaged 365 per annum. However, in the last five years, residential lot construction activity has averaged 402. Lot construction activity peaked at 720 in 2016, declining to 140 in 2017 and is illustrating significant volumes at 607 in the current financial year.

In the last three years, residential lot construction activity across the municipality has averaged 490.

Of the lot construction activity measured in the last five years:

- 5% was rural residential (20 lots per annum);
- 5% was major infill (20 lots per annum); •
- 19% was dispersed/minor infill (75 lots per annum); and
- 71% was broadhectare (287 lots per annum). •

4.3 Location of Residential Development Activity

Residential lot construction activity over the last five years was concentrated within the Torquay/Jan-Juc region at 85% of all lot activity or 340 lots per annum. Of the remaining lot construction activity:

- 9% was located in the Lorne/Anglesea region (average of 35 per annum);
- 6% in the Winchelsea region (23 per annum); and
- 1% in the Rural Balance region (4 per annum). ٠

Table 4 below summarises the quantum of residential subdivision activity by location/financial year.

		/			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Lorne-Anglesea	15	49	68	4	37
Rural Balance	1	7	7	3	3
Torquay-Jan Juc	305	130	612	119	536
Winchelsea	0	34	36	14	31
Surf Coast Shire	321	220	723	140	607
Source: Spatial Economics	Pty I td				

Table 4: Residential Subdivision Activity.

Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd

Image 5 below highlights the location of residential development activity across the Torquay/Jan-Juc region from 2007 to 2018.





Image 5: Residential Lot Construction Activity, Torquay/Jan-Juc – 2007 to 2018

4.4 Lot Construction by Supply Type

Broadhectare residential lot construction has been and is currently the dominant form of residential development activity. Since 2007, this form of development activity has averaged 67% of the total. However, in the last five years, broadhectare lot construction activity has increased to 71% of the total residential construction activity.

As will be detailed later in the report, it is not expected that the reliance of broadhectare development activity will change in the short to medium term.

Dispersed infill development has consistently delivered approximately 20% of all lot construction activity. This is an important supply source, as will be detailed later it provides:

- a wide range of residential land products;
- distributed widely across the established urban area; and
- contributes to urban containment/development of under-utilised land parcels.

In addition, dispersed infill development across the Surf Coast municipality is not simply developing '*low hanging fruit*'. Infill development is characterised by a wide range of yields, densities and project sizes. Dispersed infill development is currently a valuable and strategically important supply source, this as a supply source will become increasingly important over-time.

The contribution of rural residential and major infill lot construction activity is more sporadic. These forms of lot construction activity are project/development site specific and do not form any consistent and substantial contribution.

Graph 5 below illustrates the continued dominance of broadhectare lot construction activity.



Graph 5: Share of Residential Development Activity by Supply Type – Surf Coast

Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd

4.5 Dispersed/Minor Infill Lot Construction

The following provides an overview of the development outcomes of dispersed infill development activity across the Surf Coast municipal area. Dispersed infill activity is a significant supply source across the municipality, accounting for 19% of lot construction activity in the last five years. It is important to understand the characteristics of dispersed infill development, so land use planning policy can further enhance development outcomes and optimize this as a supply source in the future.

4.5.1 Dispersed/Minor Infill Supply – Achieved Densities

Dispersed infill lot construction activity across the Surf Coast municipality is achieving both 1) a wide range of densities and 2) a high proportion of medium density land products.

The experience in Geelong, Ballarat, Bacchus Marsh and Melbourne suggests that as the supply of larger parent lots decreases, and land prices continue to rise in the established urban area, the development industry will find it profitable to re-subdivide smaller parent lots.

The size distribution of newly constructed minor infill lots is shown in the graph below.

In the last 3 years 26% of all minor infill development activity was sized less than 300 sqm, compared to 22% from 2007 to 2015. The size of minor infill lot construction over the last 3 years is slightly decreasing. It is suspected that in the short to medium term, this trend will likely to continue in response to consumer demand, changing demographics and the cost of residential land.

Over the last three years, the majority of minor infill lot construction activity (57%) was sized less than 500 sqm. Nearly 34% of minor infill lot construction resulted in lots sized greater than 600 sqm. These 'larger' lots were typically constructed outside of the Torquay/Jan-Juc region.

The graph below illustrates the lot size range for constructed dispersed infill lots across the Surf Coast municipality.



Graph 6: Dispersed Infill - Achieved Lot Size Cohorts, 2007 to 2018



In summary dispersed infill lot construction across Surf Coast is characterised by medium density outcomes and a diverse range of larger lot sizes.

4.5.2 Dispersed/Minor Infill Supply – Parent Lot Size

Dispersed residential infill development across Surf Coast is primarily sourced from 'moderately' sized 'parent' lots, whether vacant or with an existing dwelling. The graph below illustrates the 'parent' lot size distribution for dispersed infill development.

Of particular strategic importance is the significant volume of dispersed infill projects sourced from parent lots sized from 500 to 800 sqm and 800 to 1,200 sqm. Approximately 50% of all dispersed infill projects were sourced from parent lots sized from 500 to 1,200 sqm. Dispersed infill projects sourced from 'parent' lots sized greater than 2,000 sqm were typically located outside of the Torquay/Jan-Juc region

This reliance on relatively smaller parent lot sizes (within Torquay/Jan-Juc) illustrates the significant latent supply potential. There is not a significant reliance on 'larger' sized parent lots as a supply source for dispersed infill residential development within Torquay/Jan-Juc region.

Note: - parent lot size refers to the size of the allotment prior to subdivision.



Graph 7: Parent Lot Size of Dispersed Infill Projects (Surf Coast Shire), 2007 to 2018

Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd

4.5.3 Dispersed/Minor Infill Supply - Project Size and Yield

In addition to the 1) diverse lot sizes delivered and 2) significant proportion of medium density lot size outcomes from dispersed infill development – dispersed infill development projects have relatively 'significant' **net** lot yields (in the context of a municipality with the dominant form of land supply sourced from greenfield land). This form of development can be categorised as typically suburban backyard subdivision projects undertaken by the cottage building industry.

Of the dispersed infill lots constructed 72% yielded two or over net lots/dwellings, 10% of lot construction activity was within projects yielding 6 to 9 dwellings.







Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd







4.6 Broadhectare Lot Construction

As previously outlined, broadhectare lot construction activity has averaged 287 lots per annum over the last five years. Over the last three years, broadhectare lot construction has increased substantially to an average of 369 per annum.

As outlined previously broadhectare lot construction represents approximately 71% of all residential lot construction activity across the municipality over the last five years. This contribution measured over-time has been relatively consistent, however, in the last three years, it has increased to 75%.

Over the last five years, the vast majority (94%) of broadhectare lot construction activity was located in the Torquay/Jan-Juc region.

4.6.1 Broadhectare Lot Construction - Diversity

Lots constructed from broadhectare supply sources have produced a wide diversity of lot sizes. Graph 9 below illustrates the diversity of lot construction.

Of the broadhectare lot construction activity in the last five years:

- 2% were compact (sized less than 300 sqm);
- 58% were suburban (sized 300 to 500 sqm);
- 37% were large suburban (500 to 1,000 sqm); and
- 3% low density suburban (over 1,000 sqm).

This large diversity of lot size ranges has been a response by the development industry and the Surf Coast Shire council to affordability/pricing points, consumer preferences and land use planning objectives.

The diversity of lot sizes has narrowed in recent times reflecting a general trend of increasing densities of broadhectare lot construction. The proportion of lots sized between 300 and 500 sqm increased from 26% to 61%. There has been a marked decline (from 46% to 12%) in the proportion of lots sized above 600 sqm.

While consumer preference across Surf Coast has historically been for larger broadhectare lots, price pressures have driven the recent expressed demand for smaller allotments. This has been confirmed with the local land development industry.

Graphs 9 and 10 below illustrate both the median size and diversity of residential lot construction. The median lot size of constructed broadhectare lots varies over-time (due to the development outcomes of individual broadhectare land estates). However, there is a general trend of increasing densities of broadhectare lot construction activity.

In 2009, the median size of a constructed broadhectare lot was 653 sqm, declining to around 450 sqm in recent times. Current broadhectare lot construction densities across Surf Coast are comparable to that across the municipal area of Geelong.







Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd





Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd

4.6 Major Infill Lot Construction

Major infill lot/dwelling construction activity can be essentially described as remnant broadhectare development across the municipal area of Surf Coast. It is defined as developments, within the established urban area, with a capacity greater than 10 lots/dwellings per site. There is often debate



and "shades of grey" to the difference of major infill and broadhectare. Often, major infill sites are in effect broadhectare land left undeveloped as urban development proceeded on surrounding the sites.

Major infill lot construction measured over the last five has represented 5% of all lot construction activity.

Major infill development is characterised by slightly higher-density outcomes and relatively 'significant' project yields. As measured from 2013, the median lot/dwelling density by residential supply type was:

- 476 sqm for broadhectare;
- 429 sqm for dispersed infill; and
- 427 sqm for major infill.

4.7 Rural Residential Lot Construction

Rural residential lot construction activity over the last five years has represented 5% of all lot construction activity across the municipal area – or 20 lots per annum

Nearly 80% of rural residential lot construction was in the Torquay/Jan-Juc region. The typical constructed lot size was around 4,200 sqm.

4.8 Vacant Residential Lot Sales Pricing

The sales value of vacant residential lots is a prime outcome indicator of the 'state of the land supply' market. It is a simple measure that captures both supply and demand dynamics.

Since 2007, the median sales value of vacant residential lots has modestly increased in Surf Coast Shire from \$200,000 in 2007 to \$278,000 in 2017 – an annual average growth of 3.4% per annum. During this period, Greater Geelong increased from \$142,000 to \$205,000 – an annual average growth of 3.7% per annum. Median price gains experienced in Wyndham City were reflective of those experienced throughout metropolitan Melbourne as a whole. Between 2007 and 2017, there was a:

- 6.1% average annual increase across metropolitan Melbourne;
- 3.7% average annual increase in Greater Geelong;
- 6.8% average annual increase in Wyndham City; and
- 3.4% average annual increase in Melton City.





Graph 11: Median Sales Values – Vacant residential lots, 2007-2017 – Surf Coast Shire Vs Selected Jurisdictions

Source: Valuer General Victoria

Vacant lots in the Surf Coast Shire have historically sold at a premium compared to those in Greater Geelong and metropolitan Melbourne. Between 2007 and 2017, vacant lots in the Shire would attract on average a 40% premium compared to vacant lots sold in Greater Geelong. These vacant lots would attract on average a 24% premium compared to vacant lots sold in metropolitan Melbourne. Interesting is the decline of this premium against metropolitan Melbourne as median vacant lot values in Melbourne has increased at a higher rate compared to the Shire from 2013 onwards.





Source: Valuer General Victoria

Analysis of vacant residential land sales values by locality within Greater Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula illustrates Torquay's premium on vacant residential lots compared to other development



fronts in the region. Torquay peaked in 2011 as it reached a median value of \$284,000. The release of residential lots in nearby Armstrong Creek (2010) and Mount Duneed (2012) around this time may have caused a slight pullback in Torguay in 2012 and 2013 before values increased in 2014. Although Armstrong Creek and Mount Duneed both experienced slight declines during their thirdyear of lot release, both localities have experienced gains in 2017 to surpass their initial median values at year one. Against Torquay, median values in Highton have been comparable in the last 5 years (albeit a slight decline in 2017) while Ocean Grove has trended in a similar pattern since 2007 at consistent lower values.



Graph 13: Median Sales Values (\$) – Vacant residential lots, 2007-2017 – Selected localities

Source: Valuer General Victoria

With Torquay providing most of Surf Coast Shire's residential lots production since 2007, it has meant that median sale values of Torquay are largely reflective of the median values across the Shire. The significantly lower values in Winchelsea have not affected the Shire's medians overall due to the relatively smaller sales volumes during this period. Table 5 highlights the diversity of median values for residential lots throughout the Greater Geelong and Surf Coast region.

Table 5: Median values - Vacant residential lots, Surf Coast Shire and Greater Geelong and selected localities

Localities & LGAs	Change 2016-2017	2017	2016-2017 % gain
Torquay	\$16,000	\$281,000	6.0%
Surf Coast Shire	\$13,500	\$278,500	5.1%
Highton	-\$5,000	\$255,000	-1.9%
Ocean Grove	\$15,000	\$240,000	6.7%
Mount Duneed	\$28,500	\$222,000	14.7%
Leopold	\$37,500	\$216,500	20.9%
Greater Geelong	\$18,500	\$205,000	9.9%
Armstrong Creek	\$9,500	\$185,000	5.4%
Marshall	\$13,500	\$185,000	7.9%
Winchelsea	\$0	\$158,000	0.0%

Source: Valuer General Victoria



From a pure price perspective, the broadhectare land market in Torquay has attracted a higher premium compared to all areas in the Greater Geelong and Surf Coast region. Although there is diversity within inland localities and those closer to Geelong. Torquay has continued to attract higher values despite the continued growth of neighbouring areas of Armstrong Creek and Mount Duneed.

Key Issues

As measured through building approval and residential lot construction activity, in the last three years there has been a sustained shift in increased demand levels for housing across the Surf Coast Shire, particularly in Torquay/Jan-Juc. This illustrates the need to plan for differing growth scenarios. Projecting future growth is an extremely difficult task.

To deal with this kind of uncertainty it is best to 'lean' on the side of assuming stronger growth overall and in any given market segment. That is to ensure that (within reason) there is scope to meet any unexpected upturn in demand. Secondly, to plan for a diversity of supply types and locations. Planning that locks in controls based on one set of demand projections is likely to make it very difficult for the market to adjust supply to cater for unexpected changes in housing demand.

Recent lot construction reveals the dominance of broadhectare lot construction compared to dispersed infill. There is ample latent supply that would readily support an increased share of dispersed infill development activity.

In the short to medium term, with an increase in housing demand levels, only the broadhectare land development industry has the 'ready' capacity of responding by increasing production. The dispersed infill land/housing industry simply does not have the resources and capacity to respond to short term increases in demand.

A prime outcome indicator of an imbalance of supply and demand is the rapid increase in sales values. Vacant residential lot sales pricing across the Shire has not experienced comparative excessive price increases.



5.0 Residential Land Supply

Key Findings

In total, the Surf Coast Shire currently has capacity for the future provision of approximately 6,773 additional dwellings (including areas that are as yet, not zoned for residential development purposes), in broadhectare/major infill sites.

This capacity is comprised of:

- 4,131 unzoned broadhectare lots (61% of supply); and

- 2,642 zoned broadhectare lots (39% of supply).

There are two land release areas located in the Briody Drive area, Torquay with a total lot/dwelling capacity 532 that are characterised by fragmented land holdings and significant existing low-density residential uses. Land parcels across these two land release areas range from 0.8 to 4.5 hectares. The typical land parcel is sized between 1 to 1.5 hectares. These two land release areas combined represent 8% of the broadhectare residential land stocks across the municipal area.

The vast majority (zoned and unzoned) broadhectare/major infill undeveloped residential land supply is located in Torquay/Jan-Juc (6414 lots), the remainder (397 lots) in Winchelsea.

Feedback from the development industry regarding their market expectations and development intentions suggests that over the next five years on average, **416 lots/dwellings** per annum will be constructed within existing zoned broadhectare/major infill sites. Historically, over the last three years, broadhectare/major infill lot construction has averaged **382** per annum. It is expected and highly probable that this level of anticipated development activity will likely occur.

As at November 2017 across the Surf Coast municipal area there was a total lot stock of 1,205 rural residential allotments. Of this stock only 127 lots (11%) were vacant. The majority (61%) of the rural residential lot stock is located in the Torquay/Jan-Juc region, followed by 26% in the Rural Balance region and 11% in the Winchelsea region. Approximately 51% of the rural residential lot stock (both occupied and vacant) is less than one hectare in size. Only 13% of the rural residential lot stock (or 151 lots) is sized greater than three hectares.

There are currently two areas identified for future Low Density Residential (LDRZ) land stocks, they are currently zoned Farm (FZ). One is located in Moriac (11.5 hectares) and the other in Torquay (38 hectares).

Section 5.0 of the report details the stock (measured in lots) of broadhectare/major infill residential land supply across the municipal area of Surf Coast as at July 2018.

In addition, it provides an overview of current rural residential land stocks.

For broadhectare/major infill land supply areas, anticipated lot construction timing is presented. This refers to the likely timing of lot construction, not dwelling construction. It is highlighted and highly recognised that the timing presented is a guide, it will not equate to full completion of activity, but rather a guide to likely broad development construction initiation.

The location of the anticipated lot construction activity illustrated will generally commence development (e.g. o-2 years), although complete 'build-out' may not be achieved within the stated time-frames.



5.1 Stock of Zoned Broadhectare/Major Infill Land Stocks

As at July 2018, there was a residential lot capacity within zoned broadhectare/major infill sites of approximately 2,642.

The location of **zoned** broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks are distributed within the following regions within the municipality:

- Torquay/Jan-Juc 2,430 lots (92% of supply); and
- Winchelsea 207 lots (8% of supply).

Table 6 identifies the lot yield and estimated development timing of zoned broadhectare/major infill lot stock.

	Devel	opment	Timing					
						Potential	UGZ (Approved	
	0-2	3-5	6-10	No	Total	Residential	Structure Plan	
	years	years	years	Timing	Zoned	(Unzoned)	Required)	Total
Lorne/Anglesea	5				5			5
Torquay/Jan-Juc	1050	820	202	358	2430	2,002	1939	6371
Winchelsea	42	165			207	190		397
Surf Coast	1097	985	202	358	2642	2192	1939	6773

 Table 6: Anticipated Broadhectare/Major Infill Lot Construction Activity, 2018

Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd

Based on existing planning permits, recent construction activity and Council/Development Industry feedback it is anticipated that over the next five years, on average, **416 lots/dwellings** per annum will be constructed within existing zoned broadhectare/major infill sites. Historically, over the last three years, broadhectare/major infill lot construction has averaged **382** per annum. It is expected and highly probable that this level of anticipated development activity will likely occur.

In addition to the identified zoned broadhectare/major land stocks with an estimated development timing, there is broadhectare/major infill land stocks where a no timing status and in some cases no yield have been established. This is primarily due to the identified site being highly likely to be developed at some point however, due to for example existing or underutilised uses, the likely development timing is highly speculative.

Of the development sites with an estimated lot/dwelling yield (with a No-Timing status), all are located within the Torquay/Jan-Juc region. It is estimated that these sites will yield approximately 358 lots/dwellings. These development sites are highly fragmented with existing significant low density residential uses. It is expected, that over the course of time, these sites will be redeveloped to higher density residential uses. However, there can be no certainty to the eventual timing of redevelopment.

There are a further eight sites with a No Timing status (with no estimated yield estimates) with a total area of 28 hectares. The dwelling yield could feasibly range from 200 to 350 dwellings, based on recently achieved dwelling densities.

5.2 Stock of Un-Zoned Broadhectare Land Stocks

Analysis has been undertaken in conjunction with Council planning officers to identify the location and expected lot yield of currently unzoned residential land stocks. Sites for future residential development are identified within various Council strategy planning documents. Structure planning, and rezoning processes are required before residential development can proceed on such sites.



There are approximately 435 hectares of land (with an estimated yield of 4,131 dwellings) identified for potential future broad-hectare residential development across the municipal area as at July 2018.

Of the currently unzoned land stocks (i.e. can not be currently developed for normal residential lot/dwelling construction):

- A lot potential of 3,941 is located within the Torquay/Jan-Juc region; and
- A 190 lot potential is located in Winchelsea.

Of the significant unzoned potential future broad hectare residential land release areas located in Torquay, there are:

- 850 lots located in Messmate Road Future Growth Area;
- 165 lots in the Strathmore Drive area;
- 212 lots in the Briody Drive precinct;
- 760 lots in the North East Future Residential Investigation Area; and
- 1,939 lots in the Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan area.

A major future residential land supply source is located within the Spring Creek Structure Plan, located within the Torquay/Jan-Juc region, the future land release area is summarised below.

Spring Creek Precinct Structure Plan (PSP) Area

- The PSP applies to approximately 245 hectares of land extending generally one-kilometre west of Duffields Road. The precinct is bounded by Grossmans Road to the north, Duffields Road to the east, Great Ocean Road to the south and rural land to the west.
- It is estimated to have a lot/dwelling yield of approximately 1,939.
- The PSP has been prepared by Surf Coast Shire Council with assistance from the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) and in consultation with government agencies, service authorities and key stakeholders.
- Surf Coast Shire Council adopted Amendment C114 and the Spring Precinct Structure Plan, subject to changes, in October 2017. The Amendment and PSP were submitted to the Minister for Planning in March 2018.

5.3 Land Fragmentation

There are two major land release areas located in Torquay with a total lot/dwelling capacity 532 that are characterised by fragmented land holdings and significant existing low-density residential uses. These areas are illustrated in the image below. The southern land release area (shaded in red) is zoned for current normal residential density development and has a lot dwelling capacity of approximately 320. The northern land release area (shaded in green) is currently zoned Low Density Residential (LDRZ) is identified for future normal density residential development.





Image 7: Zoned and Unzoned Broadhectare Land Supply Areas (Fragmentation), Torquay

Land parcels across these two land release areas range from 0.8 to 4.5 hectares. The typical land parcel is sized between 1 to 1.5 hectares.

Given 1) the existing significant residential uses; and 2) the level of fragmentation/relatively small land parcel sizes; and 3) alternative broadhectare land supply sources (that are larger in size with limited existing uses) – it is considered that these land release areas can have no certainty to the likely timing of development.

It is observed in other jurisdictions, that similar sites to the above do get fully developed over the passage of time. However, a conservative approach in assessing the supply and demand equation is highlighted in the above context.

These two land release areas combined represent 8% of the broad hectare residential land stocks across the municipal area.

5.4 Rural Residential Land Stocks

The stock of both occupied and vacant rural residential allotments have been determined on a lot by lot basis as at November 2017. Occupied is defined as having evidence of a 'habitable' dwelling, commercial use, or other significant capital intensive land use. Vacant is defined as having no evidence of a significant capital intensive use (as verified via the interpretation of aerial imagery).

As at November 2017 across the Surf Coast Shire there was a total stock of 1,205 rural residential allotments. Of this stock, only 127 lots (11%) were vacant. Rural residential lots as a supply type is comparatively low across the Surf Coast Shire when compared to other regional municipalities across Victoria.

The majority (61%) of the rural residential lot stock is located in the Torquay/Jan-Juc region, followed by 26% in the Rural Balance region and 11% in the Winchelsea region.

Graph 14 summarises the stock (lots) of both occupied and vacant rural residential allotments by region.



There is approximately 208 hectares of vacant rural residential land across the municipality. Of this vacant lot stock, 164 hectares is zoned Low Density Residential (LDRZ), the remaining 45 hectares is zoned Rural Living (RLZ).

Graph 15 illustrates the size distribution of all existing rural residential allotments (occupied and vacant).









Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd



Approximately 51% of the rural residential lot stock (both occupied and vacant) is less than one hectare in size. Only 13% of the rural residential lot stock (or 151 lots) is sized greater than three hectares. The high proportion of smaller rural residential allotments results in a significant limitation in terms of any future feasible re-subdivision.

5.4.1 Short-Term Future Lot Construction - Rural Residential

Over the last three years, residential lot construction across the municipality has substantially increased compared to the longer-term average. This increase in activity is also illustrated for rural residential subdivision activity, averaging over the last three years 28 lots.

Based on subdivision approval data, it is anticipated that this trend is likely to continue and most probably increase. Currently, there is subdivision approval for 123 rural residential lots on individual land parcels yielding over 15 lots. These sites are located in the Torquay/Jan-Juc region (69 lots), the remaining 54 lots are located in the Rural Balance region (Moriac).

5.4.2 Future (Unzoned) Rural Residential Land Stocks

There are currently two areas identified for future Low Density Residential (LDRZ) land stocks, they are currently zoned Farm (FZ). One is located in Moriac (11.5 hectares) and the other in Torquay (38 hectares).

Key Issues

The estimated lot/dwelling capacity of existing zoned broadhectare/major infill land supply sites are essentially based on recent trends, planning permits and short to medium terms market expectations. Over the last ten years, the median broadhectare lot constructed within the growth areas of metropolitan Melbourne, Greater Geelong, major regional and urban centres such as Torquay has dramatically declined. Therefore, the estimate of broadhectare lot capacity can be seen as conservative. In the medium to longer term, it would be reasonable to expect broadhectare lot densities to increase, and thus, an increase in lot/dwelling capacity.

Although not assessed within this study, it is observed (through considerable experience), there is a high capacity for dispersed infill redevelopment in particularly Torquay/Jan-Juc. This means that there are readily alternative residential land supply stocks outside of undeveloped broadhectare/major infill estates - therefore a feasible opportunity to decrease the reliance on broadhectare land.

Caution is highlighted in terms of the composition of the existing undeveloped (zoned and unzoned) residential broadhectare land stocks. Significant levels of fragmentation, relatively small land parcels and significant existing uses are likely to delay the timely redevelopment of these areas. Spatial Economics consider that these areas will be developed over the passage of time. However, no certainty can be given to the likely timing of development.





Map 2: Anticipated Development Timing - Residential Broadhectare/Major Infill Land Stocks (Torquay), 2018



Map 3: Anticipated Development Timing - Residential Broadhectare/Major Infill Land Stocks (Winchelsea), 2018

6.0 Projected Housing Demand

Key Findings

Spatial Economics has developed a number of projected demand scenarios based on the most recently available evidence available. These demand scenarios are outlined below:

Scenario One: idForecast – dwelling forecasts undertaken for the Shire of Surf Coast by ForecastID. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 382 per annum or 1.8% per annum growth rate (note this is trend growth as illustrated from 2011 to 2016).

Scenario Two: VIF2016 – current State Government dwelling projections. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 392 per annum or 1.9% per annum growth rate.

Scenario Three: Recent Trend – based on actual recent trend growth over the last three years continuing to 2031 and being constant. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 490 per annum or 2.3% per annum growth rate would result.

The largest and fastest growth in households across the Surf Coast Shire will be households with no children (*lone person and couples without children households*), growing at an average annual rate of 2.5% or 201 households per annum from 2016 and 2036. This household type is projected to represent 57% of the change in household structure to 2036. The growth of "*households without kids*" is largely reflecting the ageing of the existing population (i.e. children leaving home).

The next largest (in terms of absolute growth) is households with children (*couples with kids & single parent families*), projected to grow at 96 households per annum, a 1.7% growth rate.

Two age cohorts that are projected to increase at the greatest rates are:

- Seniors (70 to 84) at 4.2% per annum; and -

- Elderly aged (85+) at 5.6% per annum.

The Victorian State Government has modified the FHOG to increase the FHOG to \$20,000 for eligible first-home buyers who buy or build their new home valued up to \$750,000 in regional Victoria. The Surf Coast Shire is defined as a regional area for the purpose of the FHOG. This will result in increased levels of expressed housing demand across the Surf Coast Shire. This assessment has not attempted to quantify 1) the level of brought forward demand; and 2) the potential/likely transferred demand across Surf Coast.

This assessment incorporates the most recently available demand figures to project dwelling requirements and future adequacy of residential land. These figures use current Victoria in Future 2016 (VIF2016): Population and Household Projections, undertaken by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and dwelling projections undertaken by id Consulting (id Forecasts) for the Surf Coast Shire (updated at October 2017) as the basis for projecting dwelling requirements.

VIF2016 details state-wide, regional and metropolitan areas as well as local government area population, household and dwelling projections. When produced they encompassed the latest available trends such as changes to levels of immigration or economic conditions, or changes to policy affecting population growth locations and levels, and subsequent demand for housing.

VIF2016 projections are undertaken at a VIFSA2 region. The VIFSA2 regions for Surf Coast are larger geographically than both the major areas (regions) and ABS SA2 areas. However, the Torquay VIFSA2 area is somewhat comparable to the SA2 as the additional rural portion has seen little change or future likely development.

The dwelling growth rates of the Torquay VIFSA2 sourced from VIF2016 have been applied to the dwelling stock as at 2016 sourced from the 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics Population and Housing Census to the Torquay study area. This is then compared to each of the forecasts.

Projected dwelling requirements for the Surf Coast Shire sourced from VIF2016 indicate that from 2016 to 2031 there will be a total requirement for **5,892** additional dwellings (average annual growth of **393** dwellings or 1.9%). It is forecast that the Torquay VIFSA2 will account for nearly 80% of the total dwelling demand with an average annual growth of 311 per annum. For specific time cohorts, average annual dwelling requirements include:

- 2016 to 2021 389 (2.0%);
- 2021 to 2026 395 (1.9%); and
- 2026 to 2031 395 (1.7%).

Projected dwelling requirements sourced id Forecast indicate that from 2016 to 2031 there will be a total dwelling requirement of **5,723** (average annual growth of **382** dwellings or 1.8%). These are slightly lower than the dwelling demand forecasts compared to VIF2016 with Torquay-Jan-Juc area expected to supply approximately 78% of the Shire's dwelling growth. For specific time cohorts, average annual dwelling requirements include:

- 2016 to 2021 378 (2.0%);
- 2021 to 2026 385 (1.8%); and
- 2026 to 2031 382 (1.7%).

VIF2016 is currently being updated based on the results of the 2016 Census and updated State and national estimated resident population. There is no doubt that, based on the 2016 census outcomes, the State Government population and dwelling projections will be revised upwards.

The perfect 'demographic storm' Spatial Economics highlighted within the Geelong Settlement Strategy – background papers is gathering strength, just when it might have reached a point where it would not continue. The ingredients of that 'storm' were:

- high levels of net overseas migration (+180,000) to Australia, although this was down from the peak of 300,000 in 2007-08;
- but in Victoria's case this was embellished by a high share coming to Victoria up to 36% in 2015-16 compared with the usual 20%-25%;
- record (at least since 1971) levels of net interstate migration to Victoria;
- high natural increase record numbers of births. Although the fertility rate is going down migration adds to the pool of people who are in child bearing ages;
- deaths increasing but only slightly owing to continuing improvements in life expectancy; and
- in Torquay's case, its attractiveness as a coastal living option.

Then in May 2017 there was a radical upward revision of Victoria's 2016 population estimates which flowed through to settlements such as Torquay. In September 2017, we had the release of the March 2017 quarter population estimates for States and Territories. Importantly, what stands out, is the net overseas migration is again on the increase - up 45,000 in the year to 31st March 2017 compared with the year to March 2016.

Furthermore, Victoria's share remains high - at around 36%. With NSW, the two states account for 76% of net overseas migration (NOM). Victoria's NOM for 2016-17 is likely to be 16,000-18,000 higher than it was in 2015-16. There are several implications of this:

1. The high dwelling growth scenario presented below of 2.3% for the Surf Coast Shire is possible (likely to be a practical planning scenario).



- 2. The recent growth means that, when the ABS and DELWP do their next set of projections, there will be a considerable uplift in assumptions and the projected population for Melbourne by 2050. Spatial Economics estimate it will be closer to 9 million than 8 million. This new figure becomes a guide for planning, development and investment for Greater Melbourne (this includes implications/growth flow-on to Surf Coast, particularly Torquay/Jan-Juc).
- 3. This faster growth rate of population growth in Victoria has a marginal direct impact on Surf Coast. But the greater impact is likely to be the indirect one - the more quickly Melbourne fills up and outwards, the sooner and greater will be the overflow to Surf Coast.
- 4. This combination of interstate and overseas migration adds to the pool of young adults. It adds to births, and 20-40 years down the track, adds to the pool of future procreators.

6.1 Housing Demand Scenarios

Up front, Spatial Economics acknowledges that all projections are 'wrong'. That is to say, they will almost never exactly match the actual amount and timing of population growth. However, when they point us in the right *direction* then they are doing what they are intended for. In this context it is often most sensible to use a number of scenarios with various growth rates. This can help decision makers to better understand the range of uncertainty and to plan in a way that minimises the adverse effects of underestimating or overestimating growth.

Another factor influencing the accuracy/achievement of projected growth numbers is the availability and composition of residential land supply. If the land supply is restricted this will prevent the underlying demand for housing being realised.

So then what is the best course of action? In planning terms, we really need to be prepared for a range of possible futures of population and dwelling growth – this means considering a range of realistic growth forecasts and supply options.

Spatial Economics have developed a number of projected demand scenarios based on the most recently available evidence. These demand scenarios are outlined below.

Scenario One: idForecast – dwelling forecasts undertaken for the Shire of Surf Coast by ForecastID. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 382 per annum or 1.8% per annum growth rate (note this is trend growth as illustrated from 2011 to 2016).

Scenario Two: VIF2016 – current State Government dwelling projections. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 392 per annum or 1.9% per annum growth rate.

Scenario Three: Recent Trend – based on actual recent trend growth over the last three years continuing to 2031 and being constant. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 490 per annum or 2.3% per annum growth rate would result.

Graph 16 summarises the projected demand scenarios for residential dwellings for the Surf Coast Shire. In addition, it highlights historic 'actual' demand for residential dwellings in the form of residential lot construction and net dwelling growth identified by the ABS Census.





Graph 16: Historic and Projected Demand for Residential Dwellings, 2007 to 2031

Source: DELWP. Victoria in Future 2016: Population and Household Projections Forecast ID - Surf Coast Australian Bureau of Statistics – 2011 and 2016 Population and Housing Census Australian Bureau of Statistics – Building Approvals Lot Construction - Spatial Economics Pty Ltd

First Home Owners Grant (FHOG)

The Victorian State Government has modified the FHOG to increase the FHOG to \$20,000 for eligible first-home buyers who buy or build their new home valued up to \$750,000 in regional Victoria. The Surf Coast Shire is defined as a regional area for the purpose of the FHOG.

A new home includes:

- A newly built home;
- An existing property which is being sold for the first time as a new residential premise;
- A land and building package, or
- Vacant land on which you will build a new home.

The \$20,000 FHOG will be applicable to:

- Contracts entered into from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2020 for the purchase of a new home in regional Victoria;
- Comprehensive home building contracts entered into from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2020 by the owner of land wholly in regional Victoria, or a person who on completion of the contract will be the owner of land wholly in regional Victoria, to have a home built on the land; and
- The building of a home wholly in regional Victoria if the building work commences between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2020 inclusive.

At a macro level, initiatives such as the FHOG (when there is no geographical differentiation) simply brings forward underlying housing demand. Overall housing demand decreases proportionally once the grant ends and/or underlying demand for housing is satisfied.



However, with the current FHOG, underlying demand will be both brought forward and transferred geographically from potential competing metropolitan areas. This will likely have a marginal effect for Surf Coast in terms of transferring of demand but will likely bring forward underlying demand.

Expressed demand levels for housing will increase during the implementation of the newly structured FHOG across Surf Coast. However, once this cease, the level of expressed housing demand will be normalised (based on natural increase, household formation and population migration levels i.e. underlying demand).

This assessment has not attempted to quantify 1) the level of brought forward demand; and 2) the potential/likely transferred demand to the Surf Coast municipality.

6.2 Changing Composition of Future Housing Demand – Household Types

Projections by household type have been commissioned and produced by .id consultancy for the period of 2016 to 2031 for the Surf Coast Shire. Household type projections provide useful insights to potential changes to the composition of future demand drivers.

The type of households that people live in and changing preferences over time affects the way in which a population changes. As people grow from children to adults and into old age, they change the type of households that they live in. The traditional path has been to start as a child in a family household, move into a group or lone person household as a youth, becoming a part of a couple relationship within 5-10 years. Rearing of children is followed by an 'empty-nester' period and ultimately being a lone person, as partners die.

Households at different ages are likely to have differing economic positions and needs. Young people are often more concerned with location than space, middle aged lone person household may be looking for more space for part-time care of kids, older lone person households are likely to want to retain space for visiting family, but perhaps lower maintenance.

The implication is that the demand for these different types of housing may be met somewhat by the existing housing stock. However, over time it will require new and different approaches to planning and land development to enable this more diverse housing to be made available in the future.

Understanding the changes that people make at different ages in their life, and the different types of housing they are likely to consume at those life stages is therefore an important factor in forecasting future population and household types.

The largest and fastest growth in households across the Surf Coast Shire will be households with no children (*lone person and couples without children households*), growing at an average annual rate of 2.5% or 201 households per annum from 2016 and 2036. This household type is projected to represent 57% of the change in household structure to 2036. A comparison of the 2016, 2026 and 2031 forecast periods projects the Shire will likely experience a slightly higher gain of households without dependents in the next decade compared to the 2026-2036 period.

The next largest (in terms of absolute growth) is households with children (*couples with kids & single parent families*), projected to grow at 96 households per annum or a 1.7% growth rate, with the larger gain expected to occur between 2026 and 2036.





Graph 17: Projected Growth in Households by Type, Surf Coast Shire – 2016, 2026 to 2036

Source: forecast.id

The dominant growth of "*households without kids"* is largely reflecting the ageing of the existing population (i.e. children leaving home and retirees). Commissioned population forecasts by custom geographies project gains across the Shire with the largest expected to occur in the Torquay North (+ 78 households) and Old Torquay-Torquay West (+ 53 households) between 2016 and 2036.

Image 8: Surf Coast Shire - Average annual change of households without dependents, 2016 to 2036.



Source: forecast.id

The growth of "*households with kids"* correlates with the forecast residential development in the Shire. It is expected that the largest growth of this household is likely to occur in Torquay North (+



54 households) with some gains also expected in Old Torquay-Torquay West (+ 26 households) between 2016 and 2036. The areas of Anglesea, Lorne-Aireys Inlet, Deans Marsh and Moriac Districts are likely to experience little change.



Image 9: Surf Coast Shire - Average annual change of households with dependents, 2016 to 2036.

Looking at the growth in smaller household types from a demand composition perspective there is a significant opportunity for the housing development industry for the provision of further diversification of dwelling stock, particularly medium/higher density products. As explained previously, this will cater not just for new residents but offer opportunities for existing households to change dwelling types as household characteristics change.

6.3 Changing Composition of Future Housing Demand - Age Structure

The following provides an overview of the projected age structure of residents across the Surf Coast Shire. Similar to household structures it provides indications of influences and opportunities for future housing demand for differing housing types.

As Graph 18 illustrates the two age cohorts that are projected to increase at the greatest rates are:

- Seniors (70 to 84) at 4.2% per annum; and
- Elderly aged (85+) at 5.6% per annum.

This strong growth simply reflects the ageing of the existing resident population. However, most age cohorts are forecast to grow at similar or marginally below the overall projected population growth rate.





Graph 18: Average Annual % Change in Population by Age Cohort, 2016 to 2036

Source: Forecast id

It is often highlighted with various strategic planning exercises the issue of the ageing of the population and its various impacts on service provision and changing housing and accommodation needs. However, Graph 19 illustrates the proportional distribution of the population by age structure at 2016 and 2036. It effectively illustrates the age structure will largely be the same during this period with exception to a slightly higher proportion in the older age groups. Specifically, in 2016, 9% of the population of Surf Coast Shire is estimated to be aged 70 to 84, increasing to 13% of the population by 2036.

The key message is that there will be strong growth rates of elderly people in the future although the age structure will still be relatively likened to the current situation.



Graph 19: Proportional Population Distribution by Age Cohort, 2016 and 2036

Source: Forecast id



Key Issues

Up front, Spatial Economics state the notion that all projections are 'wrong'. That is to say, they are almost never *exactly* going to match the actual amount and timing of population growth. However, when they point us in the right *direction*, in particular giving us a picture of what the future is likely to be (with various growth rates), then they are doing exactly what they are intended for.

So, then what is the best course of action? In planning terms, we really need to be prepared for the range of possible futures of population and dwelling growth – this means considering a range of realistic options.

When planning for future housing demand (housing need) there are two key approaches can help with this kind of uncertainty:

First, to 'lean' on the side of assuming stronger growth overall and in any given market segment. That is to ensure that (within reason) there is scope to meet any unexpected upturn in demand; and

Secondly, to plan for a diversity of supply types and locations.

Planning that locks in controls based on one set of demand projections is likely to make it very difficult for the market to adjust supply to cater for unexpected changes in housing demand.

The Surf Coast Shire is projected to experience significant socio-demographic changes. Specifically, the majority of household growth will be for households with no children. This growth will be sourced by simply changing household structures and migration to the municipality. This significant household compositional change highlights the need/opportunity for the provision of diverse housing products across diverse locations.

The population across Surf Coast is ageing. That is, the proportion of older residents is increasing the most, with the fastest population growth of all age categories being in the 70 to 85+ year age group. This has implications in terms of ageing in place, service delivery, the potential 'churn' of housing stock i.e. downsizing of dwellings and the need for aged care housing (both independent and dependent housing/accommodation).

However, there will be significant, large amounts of growth of family aged adults, children and empty nesters. These household will likely demand and consume traditional separate dwellings.

The current FHOG, will bring forward underlying housing demand to the municipality.



7.0 Adequacy of Land Stocks

Key Findings

In terms of zoned broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks it is estimated based on the identified supply and projected demand scenarios, there are sufficient land stocks to satisfy between 5 to 7 years of demand across the Surf Coast municipality.

In addition, there are sufficient unzoned broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks (this includes the Spring Creek land release area) to satisfy between 9 to 12 years of demand

With the amount of supply and demand estimated, it is possible to describe the results in years of supply (a simple and understandable measure). For example, it can be stated that there are X years of supply based on projected demand within a given housing market and by supply type.

This succinct way of describing adequacy is standard across most State Governments in Australia and incorporates a wealth of information into a single figure. A series of adequacy numbers can be provided to reflect differing demand scenarios.

It is also possible to describe adequacy in a qualitative sense but with both the private and public sector familiar to this methodology, it seems appropriate to adopt the above approach. Years of supply can also be linked to trigger points relating to the need for additional land and more importantly triggering specific strategic land use planning responses. The adequacy of broadhectare/major infill residential land supply sources is calculated as a residual taking into account the state of the other supply types.

Analysis has been undertaken to estimate the years of broadhectare/ major infill residential land stocks for the Surf Coast municipal area – this is outlined below.

7.1 Years of Supply – Surf Coast

Three future demand scenarios are used and assessed against the identified stock of broadhectare and major infill land. The demand scenarios are detailed in the previous section of the report. In summary these include:

Scenario One: idForecast – dwelling forecasts undertaken for the Shire of Surf Coast by ForecastID. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 382 per annum or 1.8% per annum growth rate (note this is trend growth as illustrated from 2011 to 2016).

Scenario Two: VIF2016 – current State Government dwelling projections. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 392 per annum or 1.9% per annum growth rate.

Scenario Three: Recent Trend – based on actual recent trend growth over the last three years continuing to 2031 and being constant. Dwelling requirements from 2016 to 2031 at 490 per annum or 2.3% per annum growth rate would result.

The share of broadhectare/major infill lot construction activity is assumed at 76%. This benchmark is assumed constant over-time and is seen as a conservative assumption. In addition, the land release areas that have previously been identified (both zoned and unzoned) that are highly fragmented/with existing significant uses have been excluded from the below years of supply estimates. These land release areas combined equate to approximately 1.4 to 2 years supply.

Table 7 summarise the estimated years of supply by demand scenario for broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks across the Surf Coast municipal area as at July 2018.

In terms of **zoned** broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks, it is estimated based on the identified supply and projected demand scenarios, there are sufficient land stocks to satisfy between **5** to **7** years of demand across the Surf Coast municipality. In addition, there are sufficient **unzoned** broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks (this includes the Spring Creek land release area) to satisfy between **9** to **12** years of demand



Table 7. Estimated	Vears of Broadbectare/M	aior Infill Residentia	Land Supply 2018
Table /: Estimated	reals of bloaufiectale/ivi	ajor innin Kesidentia	ii Lanu Suppiy, 2010

		Potential Residential	
	Zoned	(unzoned)	Total
Scenario 1	7	12	19
Scenario 2	7	12	19
Scenario 3	5	9	14

Source: Spatial Economics Pty Ltd

Spatial Economics consider that the total stock of zoned broadhectare residential land is sufficient to meet short-term requirements. However, Spatial Economics recommend that the stock of zoned residential broadhectare land is increased in the short-term to maintain both a) a competitive land supply market; and b) meeting underlying dwelling requirements.

The years of supply is not only dependent on the projected number of dwellings in total, the share of total dwellings within major/broadhectare supply areas but also the timely realisation of the identified supply opportunities.

Therefore, caution is highlighted in the interpretation of the years of major/broadhectare land supply, as a major assumption is that the identified supply is realised in a development timing setting.

Key Issues

Clause 11.02 of the State Planning Policy Framework includes under 'Strategies' the need to:

"Plan to accommodate projected population growth over at least a 15 year period and provide clear direction on locations where growth should occur. Residential land supply will be considered on a municipal basis, rather than a town-by-town basis."

The broadhectare/major infill residential supply assessment included within this assessment (the method employed replicates the current State Governments methodology), illustrates that there is between **14 to 19 years** zoned and unzoned broadhectare/major infill residential land stocks.

Spatial Economics consider that the total stock of **zoned** broadhectare residential land is sufficient to meet short-term requirements. However, Spatial Economics recommend that the stock of zoned residential broadhectare land is increased in the short-term to maintain both a) a competitive land supply market; and b) meeting underlying dwelling requirements.

