



City Innovation Snapshot ADELAIDE, Australia

Overview

- ▶ **Mayor:** Sandy Vershoor
- ▶ **Term:** 2018 - 2020
- ▶ **Innovation Lead:** Dave Gerner
- ▶ **Population size:** 1.35 million (2018)
- ▶ **Innovation / open data website:**
<https://invest.cityofadelaide.com.au/>

What is the organisational structure?

As an independent department, Adelaide's dedicated innovation team consists of 4 staff.

Staff skills and profiles include:

- Project Manager
- Data Scientist
- Strategic Communications / Marketing
- Entrepreneur
- Start-up Expert



Spotlight

In 2018–2019, the city of Adelaide undertook a restructuring that aimed to change how the city conducts its business and innovates for better outcomes. Adelaide recently implemented an Internet of Things network that uses remote sensors to monitor air quality, temperature variations caused by the urban heat effect, water use, and biodiversity resilience. The city is also about to finish a 4-year economic development project to equip 1,000 buildings with a 10 gigabyte fibre optic network, providing a high-performance digital infrastructure that will facilitate business transformation.

What is the city's innovation vision?

Like 50% of cities surveyed, Adelaide has a **formal innovation strategy**.

The city most closely associates innovation capacity with:

- **Bold leadership**
- **Human-centred design**

What is the city's innovation approach?

Similar to more than half of cities surveyed, Adelaide approaches innovation capacity **both from a holistic / macro level and in specific policy areas**.

The top two priority policy areas for the city's innovation work are:

Environment /
Climate change

Economic
Development

What innovation partnerships exist?

Adelaide has developed partnerships to **promote innovation capacity** with other public agencies, private firms, not-for-profit organisations, and city residents/resident associations. Adelaide also brings innovation experts from around the world to participate in the city's thought leadership programmes to develop its internal capability.

To **improve data use**, the city has also developed data partnerships with the private sector, academia and think tanks, to collect and analyse data, as well as with other cities.



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What funding is available?

Like 81% of cities surveyed, Adelaide has dedicated funding to support innovation capacity, which comes from the following source:

- **Municipal budget** (city council approved funds / operating budget)

Adelaide's funding for innovation capacity is generally directed towards **training staff and building capacity, generating ideas and brainstorming, investing in digital systems and physical infrastructure, and paying for third-party services.**



How is innovation helping the city?

- ✓ **Anticipating and managing future challenges**
- ✓ **Gaining efficiency within the public sector**
- ✓ **Providing analytics to manage climate change**

The most critical success factors in supporting the city's innovation work are **dedicated funding, a focus on metrics, a dedicated innovation team and leadership from the Mayor.**



How is data used?

Adelaide does not currently use data to align its budget process with its strategic priorities. Challenges preventing the use of data to support innovation goals include a **lack of reliable data, technical infrastructure, as well as limited compatibility across policy areas.**

Adelaide also reports having **insufficient staff capacity to collect and analyse data, and that data are seldom shared among agencies.**



How are outcomes measured?

Policy areas **with sufficient data** or **without sufficient data** to support innovation capacity in the city.

Transport / Mobility	Economic Development	Housing	Policing and Law Enforcement	Health
Government Finance	Waste and Sewage	Labour Market and Skills	Environment and Climate Change	Education
Culture	Social Inclusion, Equity	Public Works	Tourism	Digital Governance