

**Respondent No: 64**

**Submitted Date:** 2018-04-30 12:10:35

**Member Username:** [REDACTED]

**Member Postcode:** 3234

**Member Email:** [REDACTED]

**1. What is your interest in the Great Ocean Road Region?**

Primary residence

**2. Are you completing this survey on behalf of an organisation?**

No

**3. How many times did you travel along the Great Ocean Road (any section between Torquay and Allansford) in the last 6 months?**

Most days

**4. What do you love most about the Great Ocean Road and its landscapes?**

The unspoilt and rugged nature.

The natural environment.

The views.

The serenity.

The wildlife.

Where the forest meets the sea.

The feeling of being remote.

**5. What aspect of the Great Ocean Road and its landscapes would you most like to see protected?**

The unspoilt and rugged nature of the GOR.

The natural environment.

The lack of high density housing and large scale developments.

The wildlife.

**6. What aspect of the Great Ocean Road and its landscapes would you most like to see changed?**

Better management of tourists.

Less bus traffic.

Better road surface.

User pays - tourists should pay to use the GOR, especially the bus companies that profit from the GOR but give nothing back.

Litter clean up - the sides of the road are littered with rubbish and no agency seems to pick this litter up.

**7. Do you work for, own or operate a business, or are you a member of a community organisation, that benefits from visitors to the Great Ocean Road Region?**

Yes. The key issue is that there are too many tourists visiting the GOR in a totally uncontrolled manner. It's a free for all. People camp wherever they want, they use the beach as a toilet, they throw rubbish over the cliffs and on the side of the road. The number of tourists is destroying the peaceful amenity of the Great Ocean Road and the things the community love about living and holidaying here. All the government agencies say they have no money or personnel to help fix the issues when you raise them, even a simple sign about not feeding the wildlife can take years to implement, if it even happens at all.

**8. Is there any critical issue or opportunity that we have missed (in chapter 3 of the Issues Paper)?**

Critical issues are wildlife safety, retention of the rugged and unspoilt beauty of the Great Ocean Road, lack of funding to maintain and improve the road and the townships along it. Sitting alongside this is what seems to be a tourism goal to keep promoting the Great Ocean Road like it's the only asset that Victoria has. Let's stop promoting the 12 Apostles as the single destination to see when you come to Victoria, and start talking about what sustainable tourism looks like and what we need to do to achieve this. Let's look at ways of dispersing the tourists throughout the year, and let's look at what capacity the road actually has to handle tourism volumes, before we keep promoting it endlessly without considering the consequences. The Great Ocean Road is an example of poor planning and poor management that's been happening for years, meanwhile Tourism Victoria has been eagerly promoting the GOR as the place to visit. I would welcome a more coordinated approach to the management of the GOR.

**9. Do you have any suggested changes to the overarching policy, goals and principles (pages 40 - 41) in the Issues Paper?**

Funding - user pays. There should be a tariff applied to all GOR visitors that is directly reinvested into the road and the townships along the road.

**10. What elements would you like to see covered in a Strategic Framework Plan for the Great Ocean Road Region?**

What I don't want to see is an expansion of township boundaries, and provision for large scale developments to occur. I don't want to see local communities lose their voice to a process that's so high level and political, that the important decisions about the

Great Ocean Road are made at a high level from an office in Melbourne, where there is no connection to the local community. I also don't want to see political interest and the drive for economic development and tourist development ruin what people love about the Great Ocean Road.

**11. What are your thoughts about establishing a new organisation to oversee the development, and coordinate implementation, of a Strategic Framework Plan for the Great Ocean Road Region?**

I think a more coordinated approach is needed. However, I would not want this new organisation to be so high level that they lose touch with the local community. I would not want this organisation to be politically motivated or driven, so I think it needs to be an independent body. I want to see that this organisation is put in place to protect the Great Ocean Road, not exploit it for tourism, or for profit by private developers and tourism operators.

**12. What current constraints need to be addressed in the future governance arrangements?**

The challenge of creating an overarching organisation, that is non-political, and high level, yet still has a real connection to the community, and to the grass roots level. Personnel from this new organisation need to be located on the ground in the Great Ocean Road region, not in Melbourne where they're removed from the community and the locality.

**13. Are there any other management models /options we should consider?**

**14. What key criteria should the Taskforce use to evaluate the management model options?**

Community Connections - will the new organisation have a meaningful and direct link to the community.

Revenue - will the new organisation be able to raise revenue that is spent solely on the GOR and its townships.

Non-political - how will the new organisation remain independent and not be influenced by politics.

Funding - how will funding be secured each year, no matter what the political environment.

Expertise - without duplicating or overriding the expertise already in place through agencies such as DELWP, VicRoads, ParksVic, how does the new organisation make best use of these resources, without duplicating or overruling them.

**What is your age range?**

██████

Please provide your country of residence if you are not an Australian resident

I agree to the privacy statement

yes