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28 August 2022

To Centres

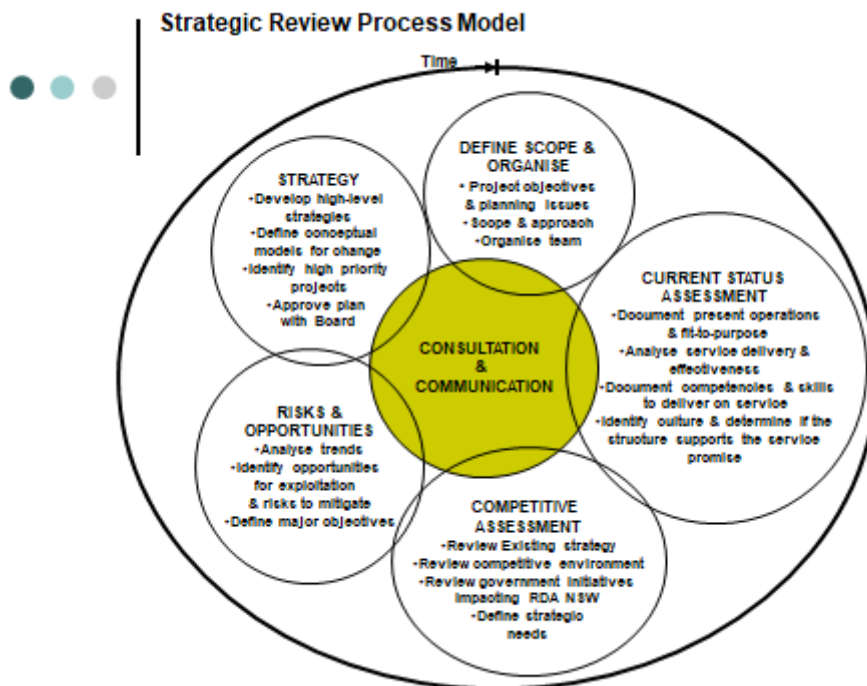
CC: Regional Representatives  
Key Committees  
RDA NSW Board

## RE: Min-Strategic Review Letter to Centres and Questionnaire

Later this year I'll be engaging representatives from all Centres, Regional Representatives, Key Committees such as CASP, State Office, and the Board to provide further input and discussion; that will lead to a revision of the RDA NSW Strategic Plan.

The first step towards that goal is to collect data from the Centres that will inform and help understand the trends, threats and opportunities that may need to be accommodated within the revised plan.

The diagram below outlines broadly the processes that will be undertaken to arrive at the revised plan.



Please assist by completing the questionnaire over page on behalf of your Centre, and return it to State Office by **5PM Monday 19 September**? When completing the questions keep it simple, estimates are fine for the numeric answers, and key words will help the analysis more than long drawn out sentences. If you need help then call me for a quick chat.

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*"RDA (NSW) is a volunteer organisation that provides horse - related activities to enrich the lives of people with disabilities"*



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**Mini-Strategic Review Questionnaire to Centre:**

Your Centre: **Ballina and District**

**1) ESTIMATED NUMBER OF; Riders including Carriage Drivers, Coaches and Whips, Volunteers for the following years:**

Year	Riders	Carriage Drivers	Coaches	Whips	Volunteers
2019	30	0	3	0	50
2020	30	0	3	0	30
2021	20	0	2	0	20
2022	12	0	1	0	15

**2) IMPACTS OF COVID IN 2020 & 2021 to your Centre across Riders, Carriage Drivers, Coaches, Whips and Volunteers. Max 50 words:**

2020 and 2021 signed up rider numbers were the same but there were limited lessons.  
2021- one coach retired, her replacement left, one coach couldn't coach due to mandate leaving one coach at start of 2022.  
Volunteer number dropped in 2022 due to lack of sessions.

**3) RIDERS AND CARRIAGE DRIVERS:**

**3a) Impacts on 2022; whether your numbers are up or down against previous years? Max 20 words:**

Rider numbers way down due to lack of available sessions/coaches.  
We don't have carriage drivers.

**3b) Are the rider/carriage driver weight limits impacting your numbers?** No Yes/No circle one.

**3c) Are riders joining the Centre because of NDIS?** No Yes/No circle one

**3d) Are riders leaving the Centre because they have more choice through NDIS funding?** Yes/No circle one  
Unsure

**3e) Do you believe that RDA NSW needs to change its programs to attract more riders?** Yes/No circle one  
Unsure

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**3f)** If your answer to question 3e was Yes, please provide a brief explanation of how the programs might be changed? Max 20 words

.....  
.....

#### **4) COACHES AND WHIPS:**

**4a)** What impacts (external or internal) are driving your Coaching or Whip numbers up or down? Max 20 words

.....Lack of current supervisors, personal work commitments, fear of becoming  
....."tied down" to RDA sessions.....

**4b)** Do you think that the training for RDA Coaches is too extensive? Yes/No circle one.

**4c)** Do you think that the training for RDA Coaches is just about right? Yes/No circle one.  
Yes

**4d)** What changes should be made to the training? Max 20 words

.....When mentoring coach is unavailable another experienced RDA person  
.....could mentor.....

#### **5) VOLUNTEERS:**

**5a)** What impacts (external or internal) are driving your Volunteer numbers up or down? Max 20 words

.....Lack of number of days riding each week.  
.....Our new vols can only come on Tuesdays.....

**5b)** What actions can your Centre take to increase and sustain Volunteer numbers? Max 20 words

.....Publicity, which we do already. More riding days would help to give  
.....peolpe choice.....

**5c)** What actions should RDA NSW take to increase and sustain Volunteer numbers? Max 20 words

.....Television advertising?  
.....

#### **6) FUNDRAISING (Excluding Infrastructure and Capital Equipment Grants):**

**6a)** Are your fundraising efforts covering your expenditures? Yes/No circle one.  
Yes

**6b)** If your answer to question 6a was No; how long can your Centre continue to operate based on your current savings? Max 20 words

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6c) Are you finding it more difficult to fundraise since COVID? Yes/No circle one. Please explain? Max 20 words

.....Yes. Not enough volunteers for Bunnings, local markets etc. Same small group  
do it all.....

**7) SITE AND INFRASTRUCTURE:**

7a) Is your Centre located on an RDA NSW owned property? Yes/No circle one.  
Yes

7b) Does your Centre have a riding or dressage arena? Yes/No circle one.  
Yes

7c) If your answer to question 7b was Yes, is your arena covered? Yes/No circle one.  
Half covered.

7d) Do you have enough paddock space to house and feed your horses; accepting that they may need supplements? Yes/No circle one.  
Yes.

7e) Do you require assistance when applying for Grants? Yes/No circle one.  
No.

For and on behalf of the RDA NSW Board,

Ed Binney  
Director/Marketing & Strategic Planning  
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[Ed.binney@rdansw.org.au](mailto:Ed.binney@rdansw.org.au)

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