

SEPTEMBER
2023

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



MAYORAL REPORT

It is with a heavy heart that I announce that our CEO Eric Brown will be taking up a position in Port Lincoln in the very near future. I have spoken to Eric about his decision and completely understand that due to his family requirements and commitments Eric has had to make the very difficult decision to take up new position out of the area. We all recognise Eric and his family's contribution, and as such:

On behalf of The Flinders Ranges Council Members, staff and residents of the Council district I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Eric for his exemplary service as the CEO of The Flinders Ranges Council.

As Eric embarks on a new chapter in his career, we want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the invaluable contributions he has made to our community. During his tenure as CEO, Eric displayed unwavering dedication, leadership, and a genuine commitment to the well-being of The Flinders Ranges community.

His tireless efforts have not only helped in the growth and development of the Council but have also had a profound impact on the lives of its residents. His vision, strategic thinking, and ability to bring diverse stakeholders together have been instrumental in driving positive change and progress in our region.

Under Eric's guidance, the Council has achieved remarkable milestones and improvements in various areas, from infrastructure and public services to community engagement and sustainability initiatives.

Eric's accessibility and willingness to listen to the concerns and aspirations of our community members earned the respect and admiration of all who have had the privilege of working with him, while fostering a sense of inclusivity and collaboration within the Council and with all in the community.

Eric has fostered and encouraged a great team work ethic within Council, and I am confident the improved systems he has introduced will sustain the council into the future.

The process for recruitment of a new CEO will begin immediately and I will work with the CEO to ensure that a smooth transition will occur, and business of the Council will not be disrupted. I will update everyone in the next Mayoral report.

Outstanding recognition

Great news for the team within Council, the Streetscape and Public Arts Committee members and contractors, who have been involved in the great work of the public square/events precinct at Quorn. The team were recognised for their great work in winning the IPWEA Excellence Awards category of Best Public Works Project - Under \$2M at an event held at the Adelaide Convention Centre on the 8 September 2023 congratulations to all involved. A fantastic outcome.

In the future the community will see the ongoing project within that area progress with works on the heritage building (Buckaringa) commencing this financial year. This will see opportunities for business ventures to occupy the space(s) provided and we welcome any expressions of interest for that use.

Other great news is Council and community support for the "Hawker Family Fun Day" to be held at Blue Burt Park on the 7th of October 2023. I encourage everyone one to attend to enjoy the day and the activities!

Works

Works at the newly installed carpark and toilet upgrade works in Blue Burt Park will see the drainage installed at the exit roadway to alleviate the pooling of water in that area – a spoon drain and sealing of Elder Tce is due later this year. Future funding opportunities are also being investigated to formalise and bitumenise the remaining roadways for vehicle access and parking around Blue Burt Park.

Works have been completed for the repairs to the Hawker Swimming Pool and the pool is back up and running. Keep an eye on the pool opening times, with the opening expected in late October depending on the weather. The same date is being targeted for the Quorn and District War Memorial Swimming Pool.

The completion of the Quorn Entranceway has resulted in a significant new focal point for motorists and follows on from the entrance way established in Hawker. The works were almost entirely grant funded.

Significant amounts of flood damage repair works are currently underway and will progress on unsealed roads in the broader Council area. This work is largely funded from a flood event that occurred in earlier years.

Projects

Sealing works for North Quorn:

In respect of upcoming projects, a significant portion of sealing work for the following streets will be put out to tender in the coming weeks:

Richmond Street from Park Terrace to St Barbe Street
Water Street from Park Terrace to St Barbe Street
Hayward Street from Richmond Street to Arden Vale Road
Frederick Street from Richmond Street to Arden Vale Road

This work is expected to be completed prior to 30 June 2024 and is a testament to Council's ongoing commitment to finalising the bitumenisation of all town streets.

Childcare:

Childcare within Quorn to service the area is still being discussed. Council has committed \$20,000 in funding and support to develop a business case to assist in the establishment of a childcare centre in Quorn. This will include the engagement of a suitably qualified consultant to develop a business case and market demand analysis for the establishment of a non-council run childcare centre in Quorn.

This topic has been discussed at length at the Governing Council Meetings in 2023 and the principal is working with the Partnership ED and Department for Education representatives to determine if the Outdoor Ed Centre is fit for purpose. Council is willing to understand what level of appetite the Quorn Area School and the QAS Governing Council have to drive this project.
(continued over page)



MY LOCAL SERVICES APP

This is a free app which can be used for submitting a Council request/complaint, checking on waste collection dates and Community Events.

Download the app now on your smart phone.



MAYORAL REPORT cont

Strategic Plan:

Council has engaged consultant Wendy Campana to coordinate the process to update the Council Strategic / Community Plan. The consultation period will include a series of short interactive workshops and interview to enable everyone to have their say. I have requested the team take a different approach for this Strategic Plan update process to ensure that the plan is relevant to the various groups across the community, those include Health and Community Wellbeing, Farming and Pastoralists, Volunteer, Businesses, General Community and Council staff.

Council is keen for all stakeholders and community members to have their say into the future direction and plans for Council and strongly encourage you to attend a session. Sessions will be held in late September and early October at various times with the target groups mentioned above receiving emails with their dates and times. All of the sessions will be advertised via the Council newsletter, social media and noticeboards and the community sessions will be promoted as soon as they are locked in.

I encourage everyone who wants to have a say in issues such as water, grading of roads, health services, rating reviews, projects and priorities, business and partnering opportunities, provision of services and any other issue that they attend a session. If you can't make a targeted session, you are free to attend another session or contact Wendy for a one-on-one interview.

Water Quality:

The SA water 4-year draft plan is now out for comment and consultation. Whilst the Quorn water quality issue has been recognised in the long-term plan, we are now pushing for this to be recognised in the short-term plan. Therefore, we will be doing a submission on that plan to indicate to put Council's position forward. We would ask all members of the community to please consider making time to make comment on the [draft plan](#) and push for the placement of the Quorn quality upgrade to be in the 4-year plan. We will be meeting with local member Eddie Hughes to push for further government consideration.

As with every report, I encourage residents to bring issues and challenges to their local councillors to be brought to Council for consideration.

Mayor Ken Anderson

1ST QUARTER RATES NOTICE REMINDER

Rates notices for the 2023/2024 financial year have been sent out. Payment of the first quarter rates is due on Friday 29th September 2023 and can be made in person at the Quorn Administration Office or Teagues Motors in Hawker, via BPay, EFT or over the phone by calling 8620 0500.

If paying electronically please ensure you include the Assessment Number as your reference details so payments are allocated to the correct properties.

BPAY payments are automatic and will only go to the property entered in as the reference number, so if you are paying for multiple properties using this method, each property must be set up individually in your banking.

If paying by direct debit for multiple properties, a remittance email to council@frc.sa.gov.au with property details and amounts paid would assist with payments being receipted to correct properties.

A new incentive this year is an early payment discount. A discount of 2.5% of your general rates only is available when you pay the full year's total rates and charges in full before the first instalment date.

STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW UNDERWAY

Council has commenced the process to review its Strategic Plan and want to hear from stakeholders and community.

Council has engaged Consultant Wendy Campana to assist in undertaking this review and with the consultation process.

Wendy will be assisting Council carry out a series of short interactive workshops and interviews to enable staff, key stakeholders, community groups and associations, businesses and members of the public to have input into the Strategic Plan.

Invitations have been emailed out to relevant stakeholders with various sessions taking place this week.

Community consultation sessions are also being held in Hawker (Thursday 28 September 2023 from 5.30pm—6.30pm at the Hawker Sports Centre) and Quorn (Friday 29 September 2023 from 5.30pm—6.30pm in the Council Chambers).

We encourage all stakeholders and community to have their say. However, if you are unable to make a session but are still keen to have your say please contact Wendy on wendy@wendycampana.com to arrange a time for an over the phone interview.

We will keep all stakeholders updated on the progress of the Strategic Plan development and you will be given the opportunity to review the draft plan prior to its final adoption.

Council's current Strategic Plan / Community Plan is available from <https://www.frc.sa.gov.au/council/strategic-plans>. Council looks forward to hearing your views on the future directions and plans for the Council and community.

SWIMMING POOL UPDATE

Hawker—repairs were recently completed to fix a crack in the pool. The crack location was cut and reinforced with fiberglass and rods were inserted for extra strength before new fiberglass sheets were placed on the crack area. In total seven (7) layers of fiberglass and resin were placed on the affected area and the surface was then sanded and painted.



Quorn—the concrete hob to the diving board end of the Pool has been refurbished due to water damage and loss of tiles. Tiles were removed, concrete repairs and then new tiles and render were applied. A quote has also been sourced to repair the concrete around the pool and will be tabled and discussed at a future council meeting.



It is anticipated that the Swimming Pool season will be open in early November 2023. Keep an eye out for further announcements.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Have a say in the strategic direction of
Council and your community



**WE WANT TO HEAR
FROM YOU**

COMMUNITY SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS:

**HAWKER - THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER, HAWKER SPORTS
CENTRE, 5.30 - 6.30PM**

**QUORN - FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER, COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
5.30 - 6.30PM**

RSVP TO COUNCIL@FRC.SA.GOV.AU

**Note: if you are unable to make one of the above sessions
but would like a face to face chat please contact Council**

**Separate sessions will be held for various stakeholder
groups who will receive emails with further details**

For more information

www.frc.sa.gov.au



COMMUNITY HALL PROJECTOR SCREEN

A new projector and screen has been installed in the Quorn Community Hall which is available for use by anyone hiring the hall and for forums and meetings.

The screen is an electric drop down screen so can be lowered for use with the projector secured in the ceiling. (Some minor electrical work is still to be done).

Funding for this project was provided through the Federal Government Stronger Communities Program with the application being prepared and supported by Regional Development Australia Far North in collaboration with the Quorn Business Group and Council.

This is another great asset to the recently renovated Community Hall and adds to the versatility for hall users.

THE FLINDERS RANGES COUNCIL WINS IPWEA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT

The Flinders Ranges Council is proud to announce its recent accolade, receiving the esteemed Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) award for the Best Public Works Project Under \$2 Million in 2023. This recognition is a testament to the dedication and commitment of Council to enhancing community infrastructure and welcoming spaces.

The award-winning project, the Quorn Public Square, has garnered attention for its outstanding design which contributes to the community, wider regional events and arts industry as well as providing a great space for community use. Funded through a collaborative effort from the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program, and Open Spaces And Places For People Program, the Quorn Public Square exemplifies the Council's commitment to creating vibrant and accessible spaces for the community.

The Award was presented at the IPWEA SA Excellence Awards 2023 on Friday 8 September 2023. Mayor Ken Anderson expressed his gratitude, stating, "This award is a testament to the hard work and vision of our entire community. The Quorn Public Square has become a focal point for our town, enhancing the quality of life for our residents and visitors alike. We're immensely proud to be recognised by IPWEA for our efforts."

CEO Eric Brown emphasised the significance of teamwork in achieving this milestone. "The success of the Quorn Public Square project reflects the dedication and collaboration of our Council members, staff, and community partners. We remain committed to our mission of enhancing the Flinders Ranges region and creating spaces that foster community well-being."

The Flinders Ranges Council extends its heartfelt thanks to the community, its dedicated team, and the various funding programs that made this achievement possible. "This recognition only motivates us to continue working tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all residents and visitors", Mayor Ken Anderson said.



Mayor Ken Anderson and CEO Eric Brown proudly display the IPWEA Award in the Quorn Town Square.

**DAY LIGHT SAVINGS
STARTS
SUNDAY, 1 OCTOBER
2023,**



**IT'S TIME TO CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS and
REPLACE BATTERIES –Don't forget to RECYCLE them!**

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