



-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

28 September 2023:

COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY NEGLECTED BY NSW GOVERNMENT

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC) Mayor, Cr Charlie Sheahan has issued the following statement:

It's about time that the NSW Government acted on the demerger of CGRC.

It's now over a year since the previous Minister, now Shadow Minister Wendy Tuckerman MP, announced that the CGRC would be demerged.

I have been extremely patient with the current Minister, the Hon Ron Hoenig MP, after meeting with him in May, when I expressed the importance of timely action on this important project.

Currently the CGRC organisation has key personnel in interim roles as we are unable to offer permanent positions because the organisation is on notice.

The uncertainty of the current workplace is not a good situation for employees, and many have already left, and I am sure others will be considering their future under the current uncertainty.

As an elected Councillor I have a responsibility to the ratepayers but equally I have a responsibility for our staff and the organisation.

I am extremely frustrated at the delay in getting the process started, and it will be a difficult and challenging process.

It is now over 6 months since the election of this Government, who in opposition strongly opposed forced mergers and who supported an amendment to the Local Government Act 1993 that would put the cost of demerging onto the State Government.

I strongly urge the Minister for Local Government to get moving on this before our Council disintegrates. There is just on a year until the next local government elections, and we are still in a position of limbo. Our last three letters to the Minister, some of which were also sent to the Premier, raising our concerns have gone unanswered.

My patience has run out, and I believe the Minister and this Government has treated our Council, Council staff and the community unfairly.

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Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council
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