

Media Release

-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

Tuesday, 16 April 2024

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council De-amalgamation

In accordance with section 215(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act), Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has submitted a proposal to the Minister for Local Government to constitute two new local government areas, under section 204 of the Act, from the splitting of the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council local government area.

The proposal has now been placed on public exhibition for 28 days and the Minister for Local Government is encouraging feedback from the community.

The Minister has stated he will consider any submissions prior to deciding whether to refer the proposal to the NSW Local Government Boundaries Commission to review and appoint commissioners to undertake a public enquiry into the proposal. Should the Boundaries Commission determine that the review results in two financially sustainable Councils, the Minister has indicated he would be prepared to recommend to the Governor a return to the former Cootamundra and Gundagai local government areas.

Mayor Charlie Sheahan and Councillors are unanimous in their message to all community members.

'It is vitally important community members submit feedback to the Minister for Local Government to ensure our proposal is referred to the Boundaries Commission.' Mayor Charlie Sheahan stated. 'A Boundaries Commission Enquiry ensures full community consultation with public hearings allowing the community to voice their views on the demerger.'

Information concerning the Proposal can be obtained from the website of the Office of Local Government at: <u>https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/programs-and-initiatives/cootamundra-gundagairegional-council-de-amalgamation</u> or Councils website <u>https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/2024/04/10/latest-demerger-news/</u> from Wednesday, 10 April 2024 until close of business Friday, 10 May 2024,

Copies of the Plans are also available during business hours from:

- the offices of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council located at:
 - 81 Wallendoon Street, Cootamundra, and

- 255 Sheridan Street, Gundagai;
- the Cootamundra Library located at 61-72 Wallendoon Street, Cootamundra; and
- the Gundagai Library located at 245 Sheridan Street, Gundagai.

Submissions or comments concerning the Proposal may be submitted to the Minister:

- by mail C/- Office of Local Government, Locked Bag 3015, Nowra, NSW 2541; or
- by email to cgrcproposal@olg.nsw.gov.au; or
- online via the Office of Local Government website:

https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/programs-and-initiatives/cootamundra-gundagai-regional-councilde-amalgamation-online-submission-form/

Any submissions or comments must be lodged by close of business Friday, 10 May 2024.

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au