

8 March 2022

Mayor Leonie Kerley  
Barunga West Council  
PO Box 3  
PORT BROUGHTON SA 5522

Dear Mayor Kerley

### **Tickera Township - Publicly Initiated Council Boundary Change Proposal**

I write to inform you that the South Australian Local Government Boundaries Commission (the Commission) has commenced an inquiry into the Tickera Township publicly initiated council boundary change proposal (the Proposal) initiated by Mr Dale Morphett, relating to the boundaries between the Copper Coast Council and the Barunga West Council.

As advised on 29 September 2021, the Commission determined the proposal to be an administrative proposal pursuant to s 30(7)(a)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act). Accordingly, the inquiry into the proposal will be conducted in accordance with s 30 of the Act, and the Commission's Guideline 9 – *Engagement and Consultation*.

The Proposal relates to a number of land parcels from the southern edge of the township of Tickera through to Black Rock Road and Kinneer Road, Tickera (the affected area) which are currently within the area of the Copper Coast Council – refer Attachment 1 for a map of the Proposal.

The Proposal seeks to change the boundary between the two Councils so that the affected area falls within the Barunga West Council.

The affected area is predominantly owned by Mr Morphett. There are also a small number of other affected land owners along Myponie Point Drive and Morphett Road, Tickera.

An Inquiry Plan and Community Engagement Plan are provided in Attachment 2, outlining the matters that will be investigated and the engagement that will be undertaken as part of the inquiry.

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To assist this inquiry, it would be appreciated if your Council could provide information on each of the points outlined below to allow the Commission to assess the impacts of the Proposal.

Please refer to the attached Inquiry Plan for more details –

- The potential impact on operating revenue – i.e. general rates, service charges;
- The impact on the various rights and interests of any council employees affected by the Proposal;
- The implications for council employees, including any proposed transfer of staff and conditions of employment;
- The impact on internal structure and representation of councils;
- The impact on any division of assets and liabilities- land and buildings, plant & equipment, cash, investments, interests in any 'business activities', debtors etc.;
- The impact of any significant contracts (e.g. waste management);
- The material impact of any legal orders and proceedings relating to the subject area;
- Any land use planning matters that the Council believes relevant to the Proposal, including details of past or future planning studies that are relevant to the affected area, land management issues, potential environmental impacts;

The Commission would also appreciate receiving your Council's understanding of the 'community of interest' held by the affected area. To assist you to consider this, it is suggested that you may consider 'community of interest' from each of the perceptual, functional and political dimensions, defined as —

- **A perceptual dimension** – the sense of belonging to an area or locality which can be clearly defined.
- **A functional dimension** - the interactions of the community, the sense of common activities such as trade, sport and schooling, and common needs for area-based facilities and amenities.
- **A political dimension** -the ability of local government to represent the interests of all its citizens and stakeholders.

The Commission invites your Council to also bring any other matters that it may consider relevant to this inquiry to the attention of the Commission.

Importantly, the Commission must also consider the extent to which affected councils support a proposal. I therefore request that you provide your Council's view on the Proposal along with the information requested above by 30 May 2022.

The Commission will also undertake wider community consultation to ensure that members of the public with an interest in this proposal have an opportunity to make their views known to the Commission.

To ensure that the local community has every opportunity to participate in this process, the Commission would appreciate any assistance your Council may be able to provide to reach out to affected communities.

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This assistance could include —

- Providing information on the Proposal to any community groups your Council may have regular contact with, or providing details on these groups directly to the Commission.
- Providing information regarding this proposal on your Council's webpage/s and social media platform/s to ensure that members of your community have the maximum opportunity to participate in consultation.

To assist the Commission's inquiry into the Proposal, please nominate a Council staff member who can act as the primary contact person for the Commission.

The Commission is also mindful that the inquiry into the Proposal is being undertaken in close proximity to the 2022 periodic local government elections. The Commission anticipates that if it makes any recommendations to the Minister that may change the current council boundaries, it will also recommend that changes are not proclaimed until after January 2023.

I also advise that, in accordance with the Commission's publication policy, the information about the proposal has been made available at— [www.agd.sa.gov.au/local-government/boundaries-commission/current-proposals](http://www.agd.sa.gov.au/local-government/boundaries-commission/current-proposals).

Thank you for your Council's co-operation in this matter. If you have further questions, please contact Pete Ilee, Executive Officer on 7109 7164 or [boundaries.commission@sa.gov.au](mailto:boundaries.commission@sa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Rob Donaldson

**CHAIR**

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES COMMISSION**

Attachment 1: Map of Affected Area

Attachment 2: Tickera Township Inquiry Plan and Community Engagement Plan