

10 December 2021

Mayor Karen Redman  
Town of Gawler  
PO Box 130  
GAWLER SA 5118

By email to: mayor@gawler.sa.gov.au

Dear Mayor Redman

### **Town of Gawler Boundary Change General Proposal**

Thank you for your response to the Boundaries Commission's (the Commission) letter of 10 November 2021 regarding the Town of Gawler's Stage 2 Boundary Change General Proposal (the Proposal) and the matters identified by the Commission that will be included in an inquiry into the Proposal should it proceed.

The Commission received feedback and input from all of the affected councils and discussed this correspondence at its meeting on 1 December 2021.

I have included a summary of the feedback provided by the affected councils and a summary of the Commission's discussion on these matters (Attachment 1).

#### Timing of Inquiry

All three councils raised concerns regarding the possibility that an inquiry into the Proposal would begin relatively close to the 2022 local government periodic elections, and not be completed before the start of the election period.

The Commission appreciates these concerns and has formed the view that an inquiry into the Proposal would not be able to be completed prior to the 2022 local government periodic elections, and that if an inquiry does proceed, it would not commence until January 2023.

Noting this, the Commission is seeking your Council's direction as to whether it wishes to receive a cost estimate for the inquiry in early 2022 as Guideline 8 requires, or if it would prefer that any further action to progress the Proposal be postponed until the completion of the 2022 local government periodic elections.

I understand that any advice back to the Commission will need to be considered by your Council, and therefore request that you advise how your Council wishes to proceed by 31 January 2022.

#### Summary of Commission's Determinations

The Commission has received a number of requests for further information on the process undertaken by the Commission to determine that the Proposal may progress to an inquiry.

To ensure that Commission's decision making process in relation to this Proposal is transparent, the Commission has placed all documentation relating to this determination on its webpage.

I also emphasise again that the Commission's determination to inquire into the proposal does not mean that the proposal has been recommended to proceed. A recommendation to the Minister regarding a General Proposal can only be made once the Commission has conducted and considered the findings of an inquiry

If you have further questions, please contact the Commission on 7109 7164 or [boundaries.commission@sa.gov.au](mailto:boundaries.commission@sa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BG' followed by a flourish.

Bruce Green

**CHAIR**

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION**

Attachments

1. Commission's response to feedback