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MEDIA RELEASE



SOUTHERN MALLEE MAYOR CONTINUES FOR A SECOND TERM

Southern Mallee District Council's Mayor Jeff Nickolls will remain in the role for a second stint until the 2022 local government elections.

Elected Members chose to retain their existing Mayor in the Council's top leadership position until November 2022. Existing Deputy Mayor Paul Ireland will also continue in his role.

The Council reiterated their support for both leaders and acknowledged their contribution to formal duties over the past 12 months – in what has been one of the Southern Mallee's biggest for capital investment into the district, but also one of the most challenging as a SA border community.

Southern Mallee District Council Mayor Jeff Nickolls says he was honoured to return to the role.

"There has been much to celebrate for the Southern Mallee District Council and our community over the past 12 months with some incredibly exciting projects beginning to take shape," Mayor Nickolls says.

"It has been a rewarding experience to lead Council through this time and to work closely with our Elected Members, staff and the wider community to progress initiatives that will deliver significant benefits for our towns.

"Major infrastructure projects including the first stages of the Lamerook Town Centre Plan and Pinnaroo Village Green Masterplan projects, as well as upcoming upgrades to our swimming pools have been among my highlights as well as the naming of Pinnaroo as last year's SA Agricultural Town of the Year.

"There have certainly been some challenges over this time, particularly with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and border restrictions. It's unclear still how the reopening of SA to the Eastern States will affect our district in its position as a border community, but I'm committed to working with our community through this time.

"As a Council, we are continuing to create a more liveable district, with opportunities for young and old. Our volunteerism is strong, and our business community is optimistic, so I believe we have a strong future ahead of us.

"I look forward to continuing to work with our active community, to further enhance our district's opportunities over the coming year."

Southern Mallee District Council's system allows Elected Members to choose their own Chairperson – or Mayor – and appoint a Deputy Mayor. These roles are usually filled for 12-month terms, allowing Elected Members to share the position over the four-year local government term.

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