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**MEDIA RELEASE**



## **LAMEROO COMMUNITY SWIMMING POOL SET TO MAKE A SPLASH WITH \$1.8M UPGRADE**

The Lameroo Community Swimming Pool will be given a \$1.8million upgrade in 2021, securing its future for the next 20 plus years.

The much-loved community pool will undergo a significant rejuvenation project, thanks to an \$850,000 grant through the SA Government's Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Programme (SALGIPP), and a further \$950,000 from Southern Mallee District Council. The SALGIPP was a competitive funding round and Council has secured funding on the strength of the project and the supporting application.

The pool has served the community for over 50 years, but a recent condition report found the facility is nearing the end of its useful life. Compliance issues also resulted in the closure of the toddler pool during 2020.

Southern Mallee District Council Mayor Jeff Nickolls said the facility was a popular attraction for local families, and the upgrade project would secure its future for generations to come.

"As the owner and operator of the pool, Council recognises its importance in providing accessible recreational swimming facilities for our relatively remote and isolated community," Mayor Nickolls says.

"Swimming is a big part of Australian life and this project will ensure that many more local children can learn vital water safety skills, as well as enjoy active and fun experiences with their family and friends in their own district.

"The pool also provides a valuable social space for our community, allowing people of all ages to gather, connect and exercise, generating positive physical and mental wellbeing outcomes for Lameroo and its surrounding areas.

"Both the Lameroo and Pinnaroo pools have seen significant growth in visitor numbers in recent years, which indicates the popularity of these facilities and their importance to our community.

"Community facilities are also an important contributor to the liveability of our area, so ensuring the future of the Lameroo Community Pool will add to the attractiveness of the town, allowing us to retain existing residents and continue to attract new families to continue to grow our district's population and vibrancy."

The toddler pool will be revamped as part of the project, while the main pool will undergo substantial works including fixing plumbing and leak issues and updating filter systems to ensure long-term sustainability and ongoing compliance with current standards and regulations.

Council envisages the Lameroo upgrade works will be completed in time for the next swimming season and will keep the community updated on the project's progress.

Council has also committed \$260,000 of funding from the Commonwealth Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund to upgrade the Pinnaroo Community Pool, and is considering a further \$180,000 in the draft 2021/22 budget for this facility. More detail will come on this project once budgets are finalised in the coming months.

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