

23 March 2022

## **BOUNDARIES COMMISSION ANNOUNCES PUBLIC HEARING DATES AND CALLS FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS**

### **Public Hearings**

The Local Government Boundaries Commission has announced the dates and venues for its public inquiry into Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's business case for de-amalgamation.

The inquiry dates and venues are:

<b>Venue 1:</b> Cootamundra Ex-Services Club, 299 Parker Street, Cootamundra	<b>Venue 2:</b> Gundagai District Services Club, 254 Sheridan Street, Gundagai
<b>Wednesday 27 April 2022</b> Session 1: 5:30pm – 7:00pm	<b>Thursday 28 April 2022</b> Session 1: 4:30pm – 7:00pm
<b>Thursday 28 April 2022</b> Session 2: 9:30am – 12:00pm	<b>Friday 29 April 2022</b> Session 2: 9:30am – 12:00pm

All members of the public wanting to attend the public inquiry should register, nominating the session they want to attend.

Commission Chair Bob Sendt said the delay in holding hearings reflected the Council's 2020-21 financial statements and the Auditor-General's report not being completed until 28 February 2022.

Further details regarding the inquiries, including the attendance registration process, are available on the Commission's website [www.olg.nsw.gov.au/lgbc](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/lgbc) and are being published in local print media.

### **Call for written submissions**

The Commission is calling for written submissions from the local community in relation to the de-amalgamation business case.

The submission process follows the Minister for Local Government formally referring the proposals to the Commission for examination and report. The Commission is an independent statutory authority which examines proposals for changes to local government boundaries and advises the Minister of its findings.

"Under the Local Government Act, the Commission is required to consider the views or ratepayers and residents," Mr Sendt said.

"I encourage anyone with an interest in this matter to make a written submission which the Commission will consider in its examination of the proposal."

Mr Sendt added that "The Commission cannot automatically carry forward previous submissions in examining the current proposal. However if a member of the public

wants the Commission to take their earlier submission into account, they can write to the Commission requesting this to occur.”

Written submissions can be made by email to [eo@lgbc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:eo@lgbc.nsw.gov.au) or by mail to LGBC Executive Officer Locked Bag 3015, Nowra NSW 2541. They must be received by COB 2 May 2022.

The Commission has also published FAQs on its [website](#) to inform the local community about the process.

### **Key findings from the Deloitte financial analysis of CGRC**

The Boundaries Commission will release its summary of the key findings from the financial analysis commissioned from Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu into the de-amalgamation business case. The key findings are expected to be available on the Boundaries Commission [website](#) under ‘current proposals’ later this month.

Boundaries Commission Chair Bob Sendt said that the Commission will release the key findings in advance of its public hearings so that ratepayers and residents would have a better understanding of the financial advantages and disadvantages of the de-amalgamation business case when making submissions.

“The financial advantages and disadvantages of the business case are only one of the nine factors the Commission takes into account in examining the proposal. However this factor is key to understanding the ability of the existing Council and the proposed de-amalgamated councils to provide an appropriate range of services and how those services would be financed.”

**MEDIA:** [EO@lgbc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:EO@lgbc.nsw.gov.au)