

Media Release

The Hon Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Roads and Road Safety



Wednesday, 25 January 2023

MONITORS TO OVERSEE CEO APPOINTMENT AT GEELONG COUNCIL

Two municipal monitors will be appointed to assist the City of Greater Geelong in its process of hiring a new Chief Executive Officer.

Minister for Local Government Melissa Horne made the announcement today following advice from both Local Government Victoria and the Chief Municipal Inspector.

The Chief Municipal Inspector has been investigating the City of Greater Geelong and its CEO appointment process.

This investigation has focused on integrity and transparency, with the Chief Municipal Inspector raising concerns this process has been compromised.

The Chief Municipal Inspector recommended the Minister exercise her powers under the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the employment of a CEO.

Two monitors will soon be appointed to support the hiring process of a new CEO and during their term will work to ensure the Council delivers good governance.

The monitors, their terms and other details will be outlined at a later date. The Chief Municipal Inspector's investigation into the City of Greater Geelong is on-going.

Local councils play a vital role in communities across the state and require strong leadership to deliver for the municipality and its residents.

The Andrews Labor Government is supporting and improving council culture throughout the state in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Local Government Melissa Horne

"Councils are the level of government closest to the people and it is imperative that they represent the communities they serve."

"We expect Councils to maintain a standard of good governance and this process of installing two monitors is about ensuring that it occurs at the City of Greater Geelong."