

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



Friday, 10 November 2023

FIRST MUNICIPAL MONITOR NAMED FOR GLENELG SHIRE COUNCIL

Minister for Local Government Melissa Horne has appointed Jim Gifford as the first of two municipal monitors to the Glenelg Shire Council – with the second monitor to be confirmed once probity processes have been completed.

The announcement follows the Minister's decision last month to appoint municipal monitors to the council following a request for intervention from the Mayor of Glenelg Shire Council that cited issues with culture in the council organisation.

The monitors will be in place for a three-month period – from Monday, 13 November to 13 February 2024. During their appointment, the monitors will support good governance at Glenelg Shire Council and guide recruitment of a new chief executive officer.

The terms of reference direct the monitors to assist councillors in the understanding and execution of their statutory roles and responsibilities as representatives of the community and to guide best-practice engagement between members of the council and between councillors and shire staff.

At the end of their term, the monitors will provide a report to the Minister for Local Government.

Mr Gifford brings considerable experience in state and local government and to the monitor role and is a specialist in electoral and governance matters. A former executive at Local Government Victoria, he has worked with councils to train councillors and advise councils on their requirements under the Local Government Act 2020.

The terms of reference for the monitors is available at localgovernment.vic.gov.au/council-governance/independent-reports.

The Allan Labor Government supports good governance at councils across the state in accordance with the Local Government Act.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Local Government Melissa Horne

"I know Jim Gifford will use his experience, skills and knowledge to great effect in this important task."

"Residents of Glenelg Shire deserve a council that represents their needs and municipal monitors have a great record in helping councils improve performance and deliver the services that the community expects."