

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



Monday, 6 May 2024

MUNICIPAL MONITOR APPOINTED TO BULOKE SHIRE COUNCIL

A municipal monitor will be appointed to Buloke Shire Council to support good governance processes and practices at the council.

Minister for Local Government Melissa Horne today announced Mr Peter Harriott will begin as municipal monitor to Buloke Shire Council from 9 May 2024 until 31 December 2024. He will provide a report to the Minister at the end of his term.

Mr Harriott has extensive experience and knowledge in local government, having worked in the sector over the past 30 years. He served as Chief Executive Officer at Greater Shepparton City Council from 2016 to early 2024, and has provided specialist governance advice to Strathbogrie Shire Council.

Mr Harriott will advise and support Buloke Shire Council, and will ensure stability for the council in the lead up to and following the October 2024 elections.

The terms of reference for municipal monitors direct them to advise and provide any relevant assistance and support to the council to improve its governance processes and practices.

The Allan Labor Government has introduced reforms to the *Local Government Act 2020* to support and improve governance and integrity standards in Victoria's 79 councils ahead of the new council term following the local government elections this October.

The reforms will introduce mandatory training for elected representatives, a uniform councillor code of conduct and strengthened powers for the Minister to address councillor conduct.

Information about the reforms, as well as the terms of reference for monitors, is available at: localgovernment.vic.gov.au/council-governance.

Quote attributable to Minister for Local Government Melissa Horne

"Through his extensive knowledge of local government, Mr Harriott will support Buloke Shire Council to improve its governance and better meet the needs of the community it serves."