



## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 25 May 2018

# Councils reach new agreement

Circular Head and Waratah-Wynyard councils have this week entered into a new resource sharing agreement.

The new agreement will take effect at the expiration of the current agreement in December this year and will run for 5 years expiring on the 30 November 2023. The agreements were passed unanimously by each council.

Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh is pleased the councils have agreed to continue working together.

*"Both councils have seen the benefits to each community from working together to strengthen the services provided."*

This year will mark 10 years since the first resource sharing agreement was reached between the two councils. A review completed in November 2016 by the University of Technology Sydney highlighted the advantages of the resource sharing arrangement to each community.

Circular Head Mayor Daryl Quilliam is pleased that the agreement received unanimous support at each council.

*"It is satisfying that we can continue to build on the 10 years of working together and commit for a further 5 years"* Mayor Quilliam said.

According to Mayor Walsh the 2016 review found resource sharing is saving \$573,425 per year through the utilisation of shared staff.

*"As at 1 May 2018, there are 17 shared employees, with the majority a 50/50 split."* says Mayor Walsh

Mayor Quilliam said the two Councils continue to pursue strategic tasks and projects simultaneously.

*"The 2016 study found that over the study period savings of \$237,800 in shared procurement and \$184,388 joint projects were made, so we are keen to continue to realise these sort of benefits through working together"* says Mayor Quilliam

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Whilst the new resource sharing agreement sets out the intent and purpose of the arrangement, the implementation of the agreement is the responsibility of the respective General Managers. Ongoing discussion will continue surrounding the operational details of resource shared employees, strategic direction and potential to maximise the benefit of this arrangement.

*Further media enquiries may be directed to Communications Officer Patrick Fahy on 0427 207 573.*

***Authorised for general media distribution by:***

***Robby Walsh, Mayor, Waratah-Wynyard Council***

***Daryl Quilliam, Mayor, Circular Head Council***

***on 25 May 2018.***



**Figure 1- LR Waratah Wynyard General Manager Shane Crawford & Mayor Robby Walsh, Circular Head Mayor Daryl Quilliam & General Manager Scott Riley**