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# MEDIA RELEASE

## Coorong Quays Wastewater Management Changes Announced

29 April 2019

Alexandrina Council and Coorong Quays, are pleased to announce that the Coorong Quays wastewater management system will transition to Alexandrina Council ownership over the next two years. This change of ownership will ensure residents and the broader community enjoy security, longevity and sustainability of the system, reflecting its importance as a critical piece of regional infrastructure.

The Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS) for Coorong Quays, formerly known as The Marina Hindmarsh Island, provides for the collection, treatment and disposal of wastewater generated within the development.

The change in ownership will be preceded by a series of infrastructure improvements which will upgrade this vital wastewater service for residents and ratepayers of Coorong Quays, enabling the Coorong Quays CWMS to be connected to Council's existing wastewater management system. These upgrades will bring Coorong Quays in-line with CWMS services delivered in other parts of the Alexandrina region. The wider Hindmarsh Island area will not be impacted and will continue to utilise their existing wastewater management systems.

Council will now move forward with improving CWMS facilities for Hindmarsh Island, integrating and expanding its CWMS assets and infrastructure. Improvements will include expansion of pressure networks, expansion and upgrade of automated pump stations, expansion of recycled water infrastructure and process augmentation at the Goolwa Wastewater Treatment facility. On-ground works will commence in the second half of 2019 and, in a staged approach, facilities will continue to be upgraded until Council formally takes ownership in around two years.

"This acquisition is a great opportunity to provide improved services to our community and to ensure the financial sustainability of such an essential service," Council's Chief Executive Officer, Glenn Rappensberg said. "Alexandrina Council is the third largest water retailer in South Australia. In taking on ownership of the Coorong Quays CWMS, we foresee economy of scale benefits for Council's entire community wastewater management system, including enhanced technical resourcing and infrastructure expansion to support economic development on Hindmarsh Island. This is a great outcome for our community."

Mill Hill Capital, as the Investment Manager for Coorong Quays, approached Council about a possible change in ownership due the significant challenges and infrastructure development required to ensure long-term sustainability and compliance of the existing scheme, and as a broader effort to better integrate Coorong Quays into the Council area. Following a comprehensive due diligence process, Council and Mill Hill Capital have collaborated on a joint venture which will produce the most economical and reliable sewer service for Coorong Quays residents moving forward.

The transition will lead to the by-passing and subsequent de-commissioning and remediation of the wastewater treatment plant at Coorong Quays, located between Tolarno Drive and Randell Road, which will improve the general amenity of Coorong Quays and reduce environmental risk. Following the transition, all wastewater treatment will be conducted at the Council's Goolwa facility.

Further information about the project is available on Council's website. More detailed information will be provided to Coorong Quays residents and ratepayers via a public drop-in session scheduled in May. This drop-in session will provide an opportunity for community to ask questions and find out more about the Coorong Quays CWMS. The session will be promoted via Public Notice, on Council's website and via Council's Facebook page. Letters advertising this session will also be sent to all ratepayers of the Coorong Quays development.

Coorong Quays will retain ownership and operation of the Coorong Quays CWMS during the two year construction and transition timeframe, whilst Council project manages the necessary infrastructure improvements.

You can keep up to dates with the project on Council's website [www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/CQcwms](http://www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/CQcwms) and Facebook page.