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MEDIA RELEASE

Alexandrina Council declare a 'Climate Emergency'

30 December 2019

Alexandrina Council has acknowledged the serious risks of climate change to our community by declaring a climate emergency at its Council Meeting on 16 December 2019.

Many local government bodies around the world are leading climate change actions in response to findings by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which stated that urgent action is required now to mitigate the effects of climate change.

In making the declaration, Alexandrina Council has a clear mandate to recognise climate change as pivotal to its planning and policy development, as well as to focus on climate change mitigation and adaption strategies. This will be done by the following key details summarised within the declaration, including:

- Forming a Climate Emergency Advisory Committee of Council;
- Developing and implementing a Climate Emergency Plan; and
- Considering effective resourcing as part of the 2020-21 Annual Business Plan and Budget process for strategies and actions that are specific, timely and appropriately resourced.

Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes applauds Council's unanimous declaration and praised Councillor Rebbeck and participating community members on their foresight and initiative in bringing the declaration forward for Council consideration.

"Alexandrina Council is proud to join a number of other South Australian councils in making a climate emergency declaration. As its inhabitants, we are also guardians of our region. As a Council, we are in a position where we can reflect the interests of present and future generations in regard to taking local action to support a steady and stable climate."

"Alexandrina Council will continue to participate in the 'Resilient Hills and Coasts' initiative as well as progress projects already in train to reduce Council's carbon footprint. Our strategic planning framework will be reviewed as part of the 'Alexandrina 2040' initiative and be strengthened by the intent of this declaration to guide future decision-making."

Council will articulate further initiatives to best deliver on local actions featured in the declaration and will continue to advocate toward a climate ready future, supporting the resilience of our community.

Keep up to date with developments on Council's website – www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au