

Message from the Outgoing Mayor



Photo Courtesy of Port Lincoln

Welcome to City of Port Lincoln annual report for the financial year 2017/2018.

I commend the report to you as it contains a great deal of information about the operations of council and details all statutory requirements under the Local Government Act.

You will see in the report the range of services we deliver to the community. As the tier of government closest to the people, we do the things you see every day. Our parks, roads, rubbish collection, dog registrations and street lighting. We also do the things that are not so obvious such as storm water systems, planning and public health control, compliance with state and federal government rules and regulations. Then we do some fun things, swimming pool and Nautilus Arts Centre, library and visitor information. We continue to support festivals and events such as Tunarama, Teakle Auto Sprints and SALT Festival. There's wonderful community driven events are

assisted and supported by council. This year we also hosted two Mayoral receptions, one for the Chinese exchange students and one for the President of Croatia, Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic, when she visited Port Lincoln as part of her visit to Australia to mark the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Then there are the big projects. With matched funding from the Commonwealth Government of \$2.2M under the Bridges Renewal Program and \$2.2M from City of Port Lincoln, London Street Bridge was completely rebuilt. We now have a wider safer and unrestricted weight bridge that will serve this community for the next one hundred years.

Tenders were called for the extension to Leisure Centre at the Marina to add squash courts, lift and one basketball court to the existing facility. This last stage will complete the project that provides an up to date indoor sporting and swimming facility for the region.

Work was started on skate park extension with completion expected in September.

Rob Donaldson CEO resigned in November. I thank Rob for his professional and effective leadership of senior management team. Trish Aukett, on secondment from Holdfast Bay Council, stepped in as CEO in the interim period between Rob and our new CEO Stephen Rufus. I thank Trish and Holdfast Bay for providing excellent service over that short period. I welcome Stephen who has strong regional local government experience and is demonstrating strong leadership qualities.

I take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers. At the library, helping with cruise ship visitors, at the Nautilus Arts Centre, or at our events, we could not operate without your valued assistance. On behalf of the community, a heartfelt thank you.

Elected members work hard to find the balance between community wants and budget constraints and are always mindful that the community funds council through their rates, and as such are conscious of trying to achieve efficiency and value for money. I recognise that the demands of office are high and to put yourself in a role that is open for scrutiny and scant on praise demonstrates a dedication to community. I commend all the elected members that I have worked with, and the new group of Council members for standing up to represent the community.

After eight years as Mayor of Port Lincoln I would like to thank the community for their support. I have enjoyed a happy relationship with all sectors of our community and have been generously included in activities and issues. I also take this opportunity to thank the council for supporting me in representing Port Lincoln and Eyre Peninsula and I encourage council to continue play a role in our sector be proactive in contributing to the direction and good governance.

Bruce Green