



## Leigh Creek Township Transition Update - August 2017

We are now over 6 months into the transition of Leigh Creek becoming an open town and significant work is being done behind the scenes as the future of a post-mining Leigh Creek becomes a reality.

The OCA is continuing to deliver all municipal services and the town is being maintained in a business as usual manner.

In the next few months we will continue to make Leigh Creek a more welcoming town through improved traffic management in the town centre, including inviting signage and by becoming an RV Friendly Town. Signage is being updated to ensure that the services and amenity in the town are accurately reflected. We are also working to remove redundant 'negative' signage, and are overseeing road upgrade works – it's great to see the recent resurfacing at the Airport carpark and entrance to Barndioota Road (Airport Road).



In addition to town administration, the OCA is supporting other aspects of the town transition, such as some of the initiatives recommended in Dr Jane Lomax-Smith's Leigh Creek Futures report.

We are excited to be collaborating with the Leigh Creek Community Progress Association (LCCPA), which has a refreshed membership and is in the process of reconstituting. The LCCPA has a number of projects in the pipeline which will contribute to the revitalisation of Leigh Creek as an open town. Projects include the creation of interesting areas within the town to appeal to tourists, a Northern Flinders focussed website, and the relocation of a historical mine dump truck to the central shopping area in town. Stay tuned for updates!

Leigh Creek has also benefitted from recent media coverage, including a feature story on Channel 7, highlighting the town's 'Outback oasis' status, incredible amenity and new tourism operator, 1834 Hotels.

### Leigh Creek Airport welcomes international student pilots for trial program

The Leigh Creek Airport is a magnificent facility and we are thrilled that Flight Training Adelaide (FTA) has chosen Leigh Creek as a base for a 6-week trial pilot training course.

We are pleased to be welcoming FTA to the heart of the Northern Flinders Ranges to explore the Outback, from above!

The OCA has recently undertaken works to modernise the Airport's facilities, which was recently the base for a Federal Government-run airborne geophysical survey of the area. This demonstrates again how versatile Leigh Creek is in being capable of meeting the needs of another project.

The FTA trial, which began on 31 July, supports recommendations of Dr Jane Lomax-Smith's Leigh Creek Futures report which was released in June 2016.

### Housing update

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) is undertaking work to determine the longer-term future of housing in Leigh Creek - how it can be accessed by current and future residents.

While this work is being finalised, the Government will ensure that housing and other building leases continue to be made available, while the longer-term future of these assets is being considered in consultation with the Northern Flinders community.

If you have any questions about this work, or about your current tenancy agreement, please contact Peter Thomas by phoning 08 8343 2605 or via email to [peter.thomas5@sa.gov.au](mailto:peter.thomas5@sa.gov.au)

# Snapshot: Leigh Creek transition in progress

## Leigh Creek Outback Resort

The Leigh Creek Outback Resort continues to grow at an amazing pace – with the addition of a daily lunchtime service, and now employing over 20 staff, it's great to see the local employment outcomes.

## Leigh Creek Landfill

Significant work has been completed in the area of waste management, with the development of the OCA's first Landfill Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) to fulfil the EPA Licence requirements for the site.

We are now working to engage an environmental consultant to address legacy issues at the landfill site, specifically relating to contouring and surface water management, and will continue to work with Flinders Power on an agreed program of site works to remediate old cells.

## Leigh Creek Caravan Park – Expression of Interest

The Leigh Creek Caravan Park has been identified as an asset that is integral to the success of the Leigh Creek township and wider community as it is well placed to support employment, tourism and business opportunities.

As such, the future operation and management of the Leigh Creek Caravan Park will be offered through an Expression of Interest (EOI) process, similar to the process undertaken for the operation and management of the former Leigh Creek Tavern. The process will be overseen by the Department of State Development (DSD) as part of Leigh Creek Futures and will be open to all applicants. We will keep you informed as it progresses.

The Leigh Creek Community Progress Association will continue

to operate the Caravan Park until the EOI process is complete and a new management agreement is in place. The OCA acknowledges and thanks the Progress Association for their contributions and significant efforts toward the operation and management of the Caravan Park over the years.

## Aroona Sanctuary and dam

Since the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources began overseeing the Aroona Dam Sanctuary at the start of 2017 work has progressed to improve, repair or remove assets in preparation for regular visitation to the site and its amenities. This includes repairs to the carpark, toilets and services being contracted to local providers to assist with maintaining these assets locally.

The recent public consultation on consideration of Aroona Dam as an iconic recreational fishing site has concluded and we anxiously await announcements on the outcome of this expected in the coming weeks.

Looking after the sanctuary and maintaining a pristine environment is an important consideration with progress towards licensing an operator to remove goats from the sanctuary area well underway. Announcements with more details relating to this progress will be made in the near future.

## Red Cross

Australian Red Cross are considering the establishment of a Transport program in the Flinders Ranges region.

For this program to actively function, it will require considerable volunteer recruitment and therefore if anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact the OCA office to register your details.

## Contact details

We encourage community members to make contact with a member of the OCA team, or relevant Government agency representative, to discuss any specific concerns or questions you may have relating to the township transition.

### Leigh Creek township or municipal services:

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You can also view the OCA website or Facebook page for latest news:

[oca.sa.gov.au](http://oca.sa.gov.au)

[facebook.com/outbackcommunitiesauthority](https://facebook.com/outbackcommunitiesauthority)

### Residential and Commercial Tenancies:

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