



Shelley Hancock
Minister for Local Government

MEDIA RELEASE

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CENTRAL DARLING ADMINISTRATION EXTENDED

**The previous version mentioning LGNSW having provided advice on this matter was incorrect.*

The NSW Government today announced it is extending the period of administration for Central Darling Shire Council.

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock said the four-year extension would allow for a comprehensive long-term plan to be developed and implemented to ensure a stronger future for the council and its communities.

“This is a decision I don’t make lightly, however following advice from the current administration and the Office of Local Government, it was agreed the extension is in the best interests of the community,” Mrs Hancock said.

“I thank the current administrator Bob Stewart and his predecessor Greg Wright for their dedication and commitment to strengthening the performance and sustainability of the council.

“While progress has been made over the past four years, the council remains under significant financial stress, especially given the drought.”

The additional period of administration will allow for development of a robust and effective long-term plan to guide future governance and delivery of services and infrastructure to local communities throughout the Central Darling Shire.

Member for Barwon Roy Butler said he welcomed the extension of the administration for the purpose of allowing the development of a strategy to deal with a large geographical area with a low rate base.

“Central Darling is the largest shire in NSW but has the smallest population,” Mr Butler said.

“There is still much work to do to strengthen financial management and organisational capacity and improve service delivery to the community.”

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