



# MEDIA RELEASE

## Buloke Library Services Review

**20 January 2016**

Work has commenced on a review of the provision of library services in Buloke Shire. The aim of this project is to undertake a detailed review of Council's current library services, and recommend the best service delivery model, including key improvements to be undertaken within the resources available to the Council.

"Council is spending \$270,000 in 2015/16 to deliver the current level of services. We have mobile libraries visiting 8 towns on a fortnightly roster as well as having a library in Birchip co-located with the Birchip P-12 School library", said Mayor, Cr Reid Mather.

The current services are managed and operated by three regional library services (Wimmera, Swan Hill and Goldfields).

The review will consider whether there are other viable options for future service delivery including pop ups, shop fronts, automatic lending, consolidation with one library service or partnership arrangements with Community Resource Centres and local schools.

The Council has engaged Graham Shiell, who has 30 years of experience in senior local government positions, to undertake the review. He has worked with regional library corporations and has undertaken previous library projects.

"The views of the community will be canvassed and considered as an integral part of the review process. The community will have the opportunity to take part in a survey on the library services and also make general submissions. These opportunities will be widely advertised", Cr Mather said.

The report will document a clear and comprehensive review of current library services, including recommendations for possible alternative service delivery options.



“Council recognises that to remain sustainable, it must ensure that its resources are used in a financially prudent manner. The library services review is part of a rolling program of review of all Council’s services.”

“There are growing financial pressures in the local government sector, and as such we need to constantly review our services to ensure we’re balancing the competing demands for services with our community’s capacity to pay for them through rates’, Cr Mather said.

**End release**

**For further information contact Travis Fitzgibbon on 1300 520 520**