



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Cr Reid Mather Calls Time

**15 September 2016**

Buloke Shire Council Mayor, Cr Reid Mather, today announced he would not be re-standing in next month's local government elections after over thirteen years representing the Shire's Mallee Ward including nine years as Mayor.

Cr Mather said that after four consecutive Council terms, it was time for new leadership.

"I've been given fantastic opportunities to represent our local community and put Buloke's needs front and centre", said Cr Mather.

"In times of drought or flood or hardship, people rely on Council to keep things together. As Mayor, it's important you recognise this and you hold onto the things that matter. Buloke has always punched above its weight. I believe that we're never here to be but here to do".

"The Mayor has a major role to play in delivering Council's agenda and making sure we get the best results for local residents".

Cr Mather said that a new council would need to continue his and his fellow councillor's work championing vital infrastructure and investments in the local community and delivering a fairer deal for rural Victoria.

"The **Rural Living Campaign** was launched by Buloke in 2015 and now has 20 member councils. It's important that local government works together to advocate on this vital issue. It doesn't matter whether you're living in Sea Lake, Culgoa, Birchip, Watchem, Donald, Nandaly, Charlton, Nullawil, Wycheproof or Berriwillock, rural communities deserve a fair expectation of services and that's something I've been proud to stand up for", said Cr Mather.

Cr Mather has represented the interests of rural Victoria on many boards and authorities including three terms on the board of the Country Fire Authority, two terms on the board of Wimmera Mallee Water Authority and two terms on the board of the Municipal Association of Victoria.

Cr Mather thanked all his Councillor colleagues over the past thirteen years as well as staff and community members for their continued encouragement and support.

**End release**

**For further information contact Media and Communications Officer, Travis Fitzgibbon on 1300 520 520.**