

## **Creating a Thriving Community**

Port Pirie Regional Council is located in the Upper Spenser Gulf Region in South Australia, approximately 2 ½ hours drive north of Adelaide. The region is preparing for potentially the largest boom in its history on the back of the expected significant increase in mining activities in northern South Australia, lead by the BHPB expansion at Olympic Dam.

Port Pirie Regional Council's challenge is to maximise the opportunities available for the community as a result of these activities. To this extent, the Council has embarked on a 'Master Plan' to ensure it is able to attract more residents, investment and business in a coordinated and planned manner that avoids any potential bottle necks that may prevent it from achieving its growth objectives. The Master Plan considers marketing and promotional activities, utilities, transport, land use planning, community facilities, environmental issues, employment creations and a large number of other activities considered essential to facilitating growth and a prosperous future for the community.

### **Presenter Details - Dr Andrew Johnson**

Dr Andrew Johnson is the Chief Executive Officer of Port Pirie Regional Council, with over 15 years experience at senior management level within local government across Australia. Andrew has served on several regional and national committees and has won a number of industry awards in the fields of economic development, finance, and management. He is a Board Member on the Southern Flinders Ranges Development Board and the newly created Yorke-Mid North Regional Development Australia.

Andrew is a CPA, holds an MBA, has a PhD in local government economics from the University of New England, and has also authored a number of books and published articles.

Andrew is passionate about improving the lifestyle and opportunities available to the community, and achieving sustainable economic growth.

Andrew, in his spare time, is also the Junior Development Manager for the Solomontown (AFL) Football Club, being in charge of organising over 100 juniors in four grades each week.