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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## COONAMBLE SHIRE COUNCIL INVITES COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO SHARE THEIR VISION OF THE AREA'S FUTURE

Coonamble Shire Council invites all community members and stakeholders of the Shire to share their vision of the area's future to help shape the Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035.

This Community Strategic Plan is used to determine priorities for the term of the current elected Council – priorities based on the goals determined and agreed upon by the community.

To discuss some draft goals, Council officers will hold community consultation sessions, beginning next week. Morning sessions will be held from 9.30am to 11.30am at the Quambone General Store on Tuesday, 18 March, at the Sons of the Soil Hotel, Coonamble, on Wednesday, 19 March, and the Two Eight Two Eight Café, Gulargambone, on Thursday, 20 March.

There will be a late afternoon community consultation session at Coonamble Bowling Club from 5.30pm to 7.30pm on Wednesday, 19 March.

Residents will also have the opportunity to share their vision and comments online.

Coonamble Shire Council General Manager Paul Gallagher said, "The purpose of the consultation sessions is to have as broad a cross-section of the community as possible share their vision and to comment on some suggested draft goals."

"For its part, Council looks at these goals and determines those that are relevant and within its areas of responsibility. Staff and the elected Council then determine a Delivery Program for the four-year term of the current Council, made up of priority projects or 'actions' that will deliver relevant goals of the plan.

"Council then breaks this Delivery Program down into four Operational Plans so that the program of works and actions can be delivered systematically year-on-year.

Individuals and families within the community, sporting and service clubs, businesses and schools are welcome and encouraged to develop their own 'delivery program' over the same four-year horizon to which Council operates and to make an annual plan to help the whole community meet its goals.

"The idea is that by working together with a whole-of-community approach, progress is being made towards all of the goals of the plan, which benefits us all," Mr Gallagher said.

Paul Gallagher

GENERAL MANAGER