

PIRIE VOICES

Shaping our future, together

MEDIA RELEASE

Pirie Voices to Lead Social Change

Published 9th May 2025

Port Pirie Regional Council is thrilled to partner with local organisations on a groundbreaking project to address generational disadvantage in the region.

"Pirie Voices" is a unique, community-led initiative aimed at creating a more inclusive, connected, and thriving Port Pirie. Unlike traditional service models, it empowers residents to drive social, economic and cultural changes that matter most to them.

This project marks the first phase of a collaborative effort involving Council and stakeholders such as Preventive Health SA, Uniting Country SA, Workforce Australia – Local Jobs, The Country Counsellor, Nyrstar, Centacare Catholic Country SA, Department of Human Services, Country Arts SA and Workskil Australia.

Pirie Voices aims to empower the community to address intergenerational disadvantage by developing locally driven, long-term solutions. A dedicated officer will be employed on a 12-month contract to engage with residents, gather their stories, and create a community-generated roadmap with actionable steps for the future.

This approach ensures community ownership of solutions and strengthens social cohesion and agency. Port Pirie Regional Council has pledged \$45,000 in financial support and in-kind assistance for the project. Mayor Leon Stephens highlighted the long-term value and significance of this initiative.

"A community-owned and led change initiative of this scale has never before been undertaken in Port Pirie. We will learn from similar projects in Shepparton and Logan to make real, sustainable community-owned change," said Mayor Stephens.

"Pirie Voices will lay the foundations for future works to build a strong community identity and reduce the impact of social disadvantage."

Council is currently recruiting for the role of Pirie Voices Coordinator on a 12-month contract. Further information on this position can be found at Employment | Port Pirie Regional Council. Applications for this role close at 5pm on Friday 30 May 2025.