Media Release
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Port Pirie Community Speaks - Pirie Voices Launches 1,000 Voices Report

Pirie Voices has released its landmark 1,000 Voices Report, providing the most comprehensive community-led picture of what matters most to the people of Port Pirie and surrounding communities. The report captures the voices of 1,154 local residents, exceeding the initiative's original target and marking an important milestone in a community-led movement designed to ensure local people play a stronger role in shaping the future of their region.

Since launching in September 2025, Pirie Voices has listened to residents through surveys, school programs, workshops, community events and conversations in places where people already gather. The message from the community was remarkably consistent: Port Pirie's greatest strengths are its people, sense of connection and community spirit. Residents want a future with more opportunities for young people, stronger local services, greater economic security, safer communities and a stronger voice in the decisions that affect their lives.

Pirie Voices Strategic Lead Anita Kuss said the report gives clear direction for the work ahead.

"Hearing from 1,000 people is just the start for Pirie Voices. We have heard what matters most to them, what barriers they face and what they want for the future. Importantly, the community also expressed a clear willingness to work together and be part of creating solutions to shape that future. We have a responsibility now to turn that community insight into action."

“Pirie Voices has a really clear role to continue listening, advocating, building local leadership, coordinating action and ensuring community voices remain central to future decision-making.”

Priorities over the coming months will be to strengthen partnerships across community, industry, government and the not-for-profit sector, expand the Pirie Voices Community Conversation Leader network and bring community and decision-makers together through deliberative "deep dive" discussions on the key issues that emerged from the survey data.

“We will also be calling for nominations to the Pirie Voices Community Steering Committee as an important step in transitioning to a long-term community-led model,” said Ms Kuss.

Chair of Pirie Voices, Lisa Brock says there are many ways for people to be involved, including participating in future workshops, joining community conversations, nominating for emerging governance roles, supporting local projects, or partnering through financial or in-kind contributions.

"Pirie Voices belongs to the community. The report shows there is momentum and there is a strong foundation for positive change. We invite everyone who cares about the future of Port Pirie to be part of what comes next."

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