



Media Release

MEDIA RELEASE

Date 25/3/2022

Balranald Shire Appoints a New General Manager

Balranald Shire Council has today welcomed on board Mr Jeffery Sowiak as its new General Manager.

Mr Sowiak is the General Manager at Brewarrina Shire Council and has over 40 years of experience in local government, and as a senior manager at Councils across Australia.

Mr Sowiak holds a Master's Degree in Local Government Administration, a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in accounting, a Certificate as a local Government Clerk and he is a fellow of the Local Government Professionals Australia.

Balranald Shire Council Administrator Mr Mike Colreavy said that Mr Sowiak's appointment will allow Council to continue to develop on the renewal works undertaken over the past seven months as Jeff has a sound reputation as a competent Senior Manager with direct hands on experience in finance, Council external works and services and corporate governance.

Jeff will bring a high level of professionalism, innovation, openness and a strong background in management from a broad spectrum of organisations as he has worked in both remote as well as larger urban centres Mr Colreavy advised.

He said that the appointment process has been very rigorous to ensure that a new General Manager has the required skills to develop Balranald Shire Council, to work within this remote Shire and to make changes that are a positive contribution. The Council involved the Chairs of its Community Based Committees to sit in on the final interview process and to advise the Administrator as to their feelings and thoughts. The Chairs recommended Jeff's appointment and I took this into consideration in the appointment process.

Council welcomes Mr Sowiak's appointment. He will commence at Council on Tuesday 26th April 2022.

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Mike Colreavy
Administrator
Balranald Shire Council