



Leigh Creek Township Transition Update - November 2016

The Outback Communities Authority (OCA) will take over municipal responsibility for the township of Leigh Creek from 1 January 2017. The municipal services within the town that will be managed by the OCA include:

- town administration and maintenance
- Leigh Creek aerodrome
- rubbish collection and dump
- footpaths, parks and gardens
- public amenity
- street lighting
- recreational facilities such as the swimming pool complex, oval, gymnasium and sports stadium, with assistance from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI)

DPTI Property (Housing and Commercial) will manage all residential housing and commercial assets in the township.

DPTI Transport Services will manage the road and storm water infrastructure.

SA Water will manage water and waste water provision for Leigh Creek.

Flinders Power will continue to manage the Leigh Creek Coalmine only from 1 January 2017. All enquiries relating to the township are directed to the OCA or relevant Government agencies.

Manager, Leigh Creek Contracts and Services

The OCA recently appointed Mr Robert Stack as the inaugural Manager of Leigh Creek Contracts and Services for the Leigh Creek township in 2017.

Mr Stack will commence in the position on 3 January 2017 and will oversee and authorise works contracts across the areas of building maintenance, trades and administration for the department and OCA owned assets including the aerodrome, waste dump, parks and gardens, recreational facilities such as the swimming pool and general amenity.

He will also provide on the ground support to, and on behalf of, DPTI Property (Housing and Commercial) divisions in the continued management of a residential dwelling program and commercial business support, respectively.

Rob's experience means that he is well positioned to lead a seamless transition and the ongoing delivery of day-to-day administration of the township from January 2017.

Call for Expressions of Interest: Leigh Creek contracts

As you will be aware, ongoing maintenance works in the town will be completed through contracts and therefore the OCA will not be employing staff within the Town Administration office.

The OCA is looking to enter into contract arrangements for the following:

- Town Maintenance Officer
- Cleaner

For more information, visit the OCA website at oca.sa.gov.au - applications for the contracts will close at 5.00pm on Monday, 5 December 2016.

The OCA is currently negotiating with targeted contractors for the following:

- Aerodrome Reporting Officer
- Aerodrome refuelling
- Waste collection
- Refuse site management

These contracts have been targeted due to the expertise required to fulfil the role and comply with relevant legal obligations.

A note about electricity

Please note that residents are responsible for arranging their own power supply through their preferred retailer. As the lessee is changing to the State Government, it is recommended that you contact your energy retailer to notify them and ensure power supply to your premises from 1 January 2017.

Aerodrome

The OCA will manage the Leigh Creek aerodrome through a private contractor to the same high standard as it has been managed by Flinders Power, with no changes to service provision. All current navigation systems and landing aids will remain. The aerodrome will continue to be one of the best in the Outback, servicing the Northern Flinders Ranges region. Subject to final sign-off, Stark Aviation will retain their aircraft refueling services.

Swimming pool complex

The OCA will take over operational management for the swimming pool complex from 1 January 2017. The pool will continue to be run under the same conditions until the end of the 2016-17 season. The OCA will honour all employee contracts organised through Flinders Power's chosen labour hire company, Randstad.

The OCA has been working closely with Flinders Power with the view to updating the pool chemical management system to accommodate a safer, more modern chlorination dosing system. This work will not result in any lengthy pool closures; the OCA will communicate any minor adjustments to pool opening times well in advance.

Dump

The waste dump facility located north of Copley will remain open. Residential and commercial waste will continue to be collected from January 2017 in a 'business as usual' approach. Any changes to the dump opening hours and access from 1 January 2017 will be communicated to users in advance. The OCA is currently negotiating with a contractor with expertise in waste management services in the Northern Flinders Ranges region for the continued collection and management of waste from Leigh Creek. Broader collection and disposal services may be introduced in the new year.

Aroona Sanctuary and Dam

Information on access to the Aroona Sanctuary and Dam will be provided in the near future, however, this facility will not be managed by the OCA as part of its town management responsibilities.

Health service

No decision has been made in relation to the future of the Leigh Creek health service delivery model for Leigh Creek.

Country Health SA will be communicating to residents shortly once a decision on that model has been made. The OCA is not involved in this decision-making process.

Commercial business

DPTI Commercial have a dedicated staff member, Claudia Trotta, who is case managing the commercial leases for each existing business in Leigh Creek.

Businesses have been offered the surety of a 12-month tenancy agreement based on their existing terms and conditions for 2017.

DPTI and Renewal SA are overseeing an Expression of Interest process for the Leigh Creek Tavern, seeking a commercial operator with the relevant management expertise. Outcomes of this process will be communicated with you as soon as information comes to hand.

Any person who wishes to explore a business opportunity in Leigh Creek is asked to contact the OCA in the first instance.

Residential Tenancy Agreements

DPTI Government Housing's dedicated staff member, Mr Peter Thomas, has been working in Leigh Creek over the past few months to ensure all residential housing arrangements are in place for 2017.

Tenancy Agreements have now been posted to all current residential housing tenants who have indicated that they will remain in Leigh Creek in 2017.

Further information

Contact details

Community members are encouraged to make contact with a member of the OCA team, or relevant DPTI representative, to discuss any specific concerns or questions they may have relating to the township transition.

For enquiries relating to the Leigh Creek township or municipal services:

Courtney Harrington

Northern Flinders Project Officer, OCA

M 0413 090 556

P 8648 5970

H 1800 640 542 (free call for unincorporated areas)

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For enquiries relating to Residential Tenancy Agreements:

Peter Thomas

Leigh Creek Transition Housing Manager, DPTI Government Housing

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For enquiries relating to Commercial Tenancy Agreements:

Claudia Trotta

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You can also view the OCA website or Facebook page for latest news:

oca.sa.gov.au

[facebook.com/outbackcommunitiesauthority](https://www.facebook.com/outbackcommunitiesauthority)