

media release

Outback Communities Authority Media Release. 12 May 2015

Court Determination Handed Down on Outback Communities Authority Debt Process

The Magistrates Court in Adelaide yesterday handed down its decision on the Outback Communities Authority's (OCA) ongoing attempts to recover outstanding Andamooka community contributions. The Court has found the 2012-13 Community Affairs Resourcing and Management and Community Contribution process was valid and that the levy is payable.

Cecilia Woolford, Chair for the Outback Communities Authority today said "the Magistrate's decision is a good outcome for the Authority and for the community".

"I believe His Honour went to great lengths to allow each landowner time to express all of their concerns about the levy and its implementation. In his summing up the Magistrate addressed each of the matters raised". Ms Woolford said.

"We understand that not everyone has welcomed the introduction of a levy and despite extensive consultation there still exists some misconception around the community contribution scheme. I'm hopeful that the few members of the community that had concerns are now assured the OCA acted appropriately.

Of course there is always the possibility of an appeal but it's difficult to see how such an appeal might get up". Ms Woolford added.

The OCA will now proceed with the matter of pursuing outstanding debts as part of its normal business. Anyone with an outstanding debt with the OCA is encouraged to contact the Authority and negotiate a repayment plan to avoid further legal costs.



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