

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### New Kimba Council reaffirms focus on community collaboration

The District Council of Kimba remains committed to innovative leadership and collaboration with community stakeholders following the swearing in of new Elected Members on November 26.

With the election campaign behind them, the seven Elected Members hit the ground running at the first Ordinary Meeting of Council, with Mayor Dean Johnson re-elected unopposed and joined in the leadership team by Deputy Mayor Megan Lienert.

Mayor Johnson said it was a privilege to be asked to lead Council for a second term, and reaffirmed its focus on championing the continuing social and economic development of the Kimba community.

“I’d like to congratulate my fellow Councillors on their election success, and look forward to leading what I’d argue is one of the strongest regional councils in South Australia,” he said.

“We have a fantastic mix of new and returning Elected Members, and there has already been robust debate in the chambers around how Council can best play its part in ensuring Kimba keeps its reputation as somewhere people want to live, work and play.”

Achieving that ambitious vision will require seamless collaboration with the community, other tiers of government and private investors, and Mayor Johnson said a staggering 81.02 per cent voter turnout earlier in the month – the highest in the state by more than 10 per cent – demonstrated how engaged Council already was with residents and ratepayers.

“There has been a lot of talk in the media about low ballot paper returns across the Local Government sector as a whole and what that means in terms of diminished community engagement, but you only have to look at Kimba’s result to see that councils remain as critical as ever in delivering vibrant, sustainable communities for South Australians,” Mayor Johnson explained.

“Kimba has some significant challenges ahead over the next few years, and Council is committed to working closely with our community to provide innovative leadership that makes our incredible little town more liveable than it already is.”

### ENDS

For more information, contact the District Council of Kimba Manager Corporate Services Lyndon Keane on 0419 891 666 or [lyndon@kimba.sa.gov.au](mailto:lyndon@kimba.sa.gov.au).

### Photo captions

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LEADERSHIP TEAM: Mayor Dean Johnson and Deputy Mayor Megan Lienert are all smiles after being elected to lead the District Council of Kimba for the next four years on November 26.