Renmark Paringa Council

Media Release

DATE: 11 November 2022

Renmark Paringa Council – Flood Response Update

Levee Network:

In response to the State Government's announcement yesterday that the predicted flow is to reach at least 165Gigalitres per day by early December, Council will undertake additional work to increase the crest height of the levee banks (where required).

Council is taking a conservative approach and is actively planning for a higher flow than the current upper limit that the State Government is projecting.

Stormwater:

As the predicted flow forecasts have increased, Council has also commenced closing stormwater outlets. This is due to the potential for rising River levels to cause flooding via backflow through the stormwater network. Council has placed industrial sized pumps at various locations throughout the stormwater network and is currently sourcing additional pumps to supplement this.

Council would like to remind the community that the stormwater pumps are in place for the community's protection in the case of a significant rain event and are only to be operated by Council staff. These pumps are being monitored by Council and SA Police regularly, however if the community witnesses any suspicious behaviour at the pump locations, Council strongly urges that SAPOL are notified.

Chief Executive Officer Tony Siviour said "We have already been victim to theft during this flood event and we can't afford to experience any more as it costs valuable time. Renmark is an island and we need this infrastructure to get the water out as quickly as it comes in. I would like to ask all community members to be vigilant and to report any suspicious behaviour to SA Police."

State Emergency Service:

As the forecasted flow has been increased and Council prepares to close stormwater outlets, this is a kindly reminder for all residents to familiarise themselves with the SA State Emergency Services (SASES) website https://www.ses.sa.gov.au/home/ or phone them on 1800 362 361. The SASES website has information on how to protect yourself against floods and to be prepared for storm events.

Regular Radio Updates:

Renmark Paringa Council has now established dedicated time slots on ABC Riverland to ensure that the community remains informed. Chief Executive Officer, Tony Siviour will speak on the ABC Riverland's Breakfast Show each Tuesday and Thursday between 7.30am-8am.

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Renmark Paringa Council

Council wishes to thank ABC Riverland for collaborating with us to keep our local community informed.

To stay informed on Council's response to the rising River Murray levels, please visit our website, titled '<u>River Murray Flood Advice</u>' which contains all Council updates and links to relevant State and Federal Government information sources.

All media enquiries can be directed to: Tony Siviour, Chief Executive Officer on 8580 3000 or email <u>council@renmarkparinga.sa.gov.au</u>

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