



## **Media Release**

### **Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority – Adelaide Plains Council’s Policy Position to Advance a Stormwater Management Plan**

Adelaide Plains Council (APC), in late 2017, resolved to engage engineering firm, *Southfront*, to prepare an assessment in relation to the impact of the proposed Northern Floodway on the economic footprint of APC together with an independent review of the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority (GRFMA) Charter.

The *Southfront* Report has recently been received by APC for its consideration. APC’s GRFMA Board Members, at the recent meeting of the GRFMA, advocated for a deferral of any further work on the proposed Northern Floodway and Charter Review to enable a holistic strategy to be implemented in relation to the entire suite of works forecast for delivery, including the significant infrastructure works surrounding the enlargement of the Bruce Eastick Dam.

In light of concerns raised by constituent councils regarding APC’s position and the GRFMA’s subsequent request that APC provide the relevant information comprised within the *Southfront* Report, APC has now resolved to release the *Southfront* Report to the GRFMA and its constituent councils for their information.

Mayor Flaherty said, *“As a gesture of goodwill and in the interest of transparency and good governance, Council has now released the Southfront Report.”*

Deputy Mayor and GRFMA Board Member, Councillor Lawrence, added, *“It is the position of APC that the GRFMA acts strategically, with due diligence and consistent with principles of corporate and financial governance in its approach to future flood mitigation responsibilities being an approach and direction that will achieve a holistic rather than a ‘project by project’ approach to flood mitigation for the benefit of the constituent councils and their communities.”*

This strategic approach requires the GRFMA, as a priority, to develop a Stormwater Management Plan and to obtain the approval of the Stormwater Management Authority.

*“APC believes that the preparation of a Stormwater Management Plan should be followed by a review of the GRFMA Charter, the development of a long term financial plan and the consequent update of the business plan all of which will ensure that all constituent councils are able to ‘forward plan’ with clarity and certainty,”* Mayor Flaherty confirmed.

APC has now formally provided notice to the GRFMA that it intends to place a Notice of Motion to the forthcoming meeting of the GRFMA for constituent councils’ endorsement in order to achieve the above policy position.

James Miller  
**Chief Executive Officer**

3 May 2018