



#183014

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015

### **Media Release**

## **THE FUTURE OF YOUR COUNCIL**

### **Join the conversation**

Young Shire Council is calling on its residents to join in the conversation on the future of Council including the potential option of a merger with the Shires of Boorowa and Harden. Your Council wants to know your thoughts before making its formal submission to the State Government.

“Many members of the community are aware that we have engaged a consultant to provide a report on the different scenarios for the future of the Council. The research has been done and now we need the communities input.” stated Peter Vlatko, General Manager of Young Shire Council.

“This is your Shire, your Council and we want you to have a say in its future. We want to hear your questions, your ideas and your concerns.”

The consultants report known as the ‘Hilltops Report’ is available online at [www.young.nsw.gov.au](http://www.young.nsw.gov.au) and printed copies will also be available at the Council offices at the Town Hall and the Library.

Council will also be sending to all residents and ratepayers within our local postcodes a newsletter which will provide an overview of the process so far and the summaries of the four scenarios which include maintaining the status quo of the Council, a merger of Boorowa, Harden and Young Councils to become a Hilltops Council, incorporating other communities of interest and maintaining the existing Councils with a different administrative/managerial structure.

Whilst considering the potential options for our future Council is also tasked with preparing its “Fit for the Future” report, which is the State Governments blueprint for the future of local government. It outlines benchmarks for performance and funding levels for those Councils that opt to merge. An \$11m incentive would be provided to a Hilltops Council should the merger take place.

The “Fit for the Future” report is due to the Government by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and will include the Council’s decision on whether or not a merger will occur.

More information on Fit for the Future <http://www.fitforthefuture.nsw.gov.au/>

## How can you join the conversation?

### Speak to Council...

Council will be holding the following public forums:

Koorawatha, Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in Koorawatha Hall at 7pm  
Murringo, Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in Murringo Hall at 7pm  
Monteagle, Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in Monteagle Hall at 7pm  
Bendick Murrell, Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in Bendick Murrell Hall at 7pm  
Bribbaree, Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in Bribbaree Hall at 7.30pm  
Young, Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 in the Town Hall at 7pm

Community Consultation Kiosk with Councillors and Council Staff:

DATES: Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March  
LOCATION: In front of Westpac, Boorowa Street  
TIME: 9am-1pm

### Write to Council...

[mail@young.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@young.nsw.gov.au)

189-205 Boorowa Street, Young, NSW, 2594

Facebook.com/youngshirecouncil

All submissions must be received by Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March. All written submissions with contact details provided will be noted and responded to.

### **Media Contact:**

Peter Vlatko, General Manager, Young Shire Council

0419 825 235

[peter.vlatko@young.nsw.gov.au](mailto:peter.vlatko@young.nsw.gov.au)