



**MEDIA RELEASE: TUESDAY, 12 MARCH, 2019**

### **Expressions of Interest for future development of Longwood Flats**

Strathbogie Shire Council, in partnership with the Longwood Action Group, is calling for Expressions of Interest for the future development of flats at 1-5/10 Jean Street in Longwood.

Council is looking to sell or transfer the site to an appropriate developer and for proposals that will realise a benefit to the local community and the Strathbogie Shire.

The flats have been owned by Council and its predecessors for some time, which has been the subject of a lease agreement between Council and the former Housing Commission for the land and buildings.

The lease period was to be for 55 years, but was terminated in 2012 and as a result the land and improvements have been fully resumed by Council.

Strathbogie Shire Council's Director Innovation and Performance, Phil Howard said the property went to auction in August 2018 and was passed in.

"The auction process highlighted some issues relating to future development options that may be inconsistent with Council's and the community's agreed objectives of sale," Mr Howard explained.

"After many discussions with representatives of the Longwood Action Group, we are in agreement that the site should become a valued asset for Longwood, either publicly or privately owned, and should not conflict with the adjacent public open space.

As a result, we have opted to undertake an Expression of Interest (EOI) process overseen by Council in partnership with representatives of the Longwood Action Group."

Mr Howard said an Open Day will be held at the site on Friday 22 March 2019 from 10am to 1pm to allow interested parties to inspect the flats.

"We really encourage people to come along to the Open Day and have a chat with representatives from Council and the Longwood Action Group, who will be in attendance," Mr Howard said.

Submissions will be assessed by Council and community representatives in the coming months.

President of the Longwood Action Group, Steve Tobin said the Longwood flats present a great opportunity to enhance the town.

“This is an opportunity to make these buildings an asset to the town, like they once were, and to attract more people to Longwood.

The Longwood Action Group is thankful to Council, especially Phil Howard, for working with the Longwood Action Group and the community on this project and we’re looking forward to an amicable outcome for ratepayers and Council.”

An Expression of Interest must be submitted either in person, by mail or email before 5pm on Friday 12 April 2019.

EOIs submitted by mail or in person must be delivered in a sealed envelope marked “Confidential Expression of Interest – Proposal for the future development of the Longwood Flats” and addressed to:

**Phil Howard**  
**Director Innovation & Performance**  
**Strathbogie Shire Council**  
**PO Box 177 (or 109A Binney Street Euroa if being hand delivered)**  
**Euroa Vic 3666**

EOIs submitted by email should be sent to: [info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au) with the words “Confidential Expression of Interest – Proposal for the future development of the Longwood Flats” in the subject line of the email.

For more information about the Longwood Flats, please visit [www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/council/about-council/public-notice](http://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/council/about-council/public-notice) or speak to Phil Howard by calling Council Offices on 1800 065 993.

-ENDS-

**Media contact:** Clare Allen- 0418 336 078

**Key Spokesperson:** Phil Howard- 1800 065 993