



UPPER SPENCER GULF COMMON PURPOSE GROUP

MEDIA RELEASE

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Independent Chair to Lead Regional Group

Now in its seventeenth year, the Upper Spencer Gulf Common Purpose Group is looking to expand its horizons by appointing an independent chair.

The longstanding alliance of the Council Mayors and CEO's, regional development and education sector representatives from across Pt Augusta, Whyalla and Port Pirie focusses on opportunities to improve the economic and social growth of the Upper Spencer Gulf.

A 2012 report by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies recommended the Common Purpose Group consider appointing an independent chair to help promote opportunities to diversify the economic base of the three cities and to improve the international competitiveness of the region.

Whyalla Mayor Jim Pollock says the decision to appoint an independent chair is aimed at substantially raising the profile of the region and taking the Group to a new level of activity and political advocacy.

"The role will require someone with exceptional leadership, political acumen, the ability to build confidence and cohesion and inspire a shared vision for the future of our region", says Jim.

"We are looking for someone who can bring time and experience to promoting our region to State and Commonwealth Government, Members of Parliament, influential academics and industry", says Mayor Pollock.

Port Augusta Mayor, Sam Johnson agrees. "The Upper Spencer Gulf has so much potential to help transform this state economically and to become strong, thriving regional cities where people want to work and live.

"We think an independent chair will provide the high profile, dedicated resource to help achieve this."

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