

Reprimand Cr Preece, The Barossa Council (25BSP-0007)

The Behavioural Standards Panel notes that:

- On multiple occasions during 2024 Cr Preece engaged in behaviour that breached the *Behavioural Standards for Council Members*.
- On 20 May 2025 the Council resolved that Cr Preece must issue public apologies specific to the findings of five investigations that were conducted into his behaviour.
- Cr Preece has not given the public apologies as required by the Council and this resulted in the referral of a complaint of misbehaviour to the Panel.

The Panel found that Cr Preece committed misbehaviour and has made the following orders:

1. It reprimands Cr Preece, by means of a public statement, in accordance with section 262W(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act).
2. The Council is directed to pass a censure motion in respect of Cr Preece, in accordance with section 262W(1)(b) of the Act.
3. Cr Preece is required to issue public apologies in a manner which accords with the resolutions made by the Council, in accordance with section 262W(1)(c) of the Act.
4. Cr Preece is required to issue a public apology in a manner determined by the Panel, in accordance with section 262W(1)(c) of the Act.
5. Cr Preece is required to reimburse the Council the specified amount of \$810, as a proportion of reimbursement of the costs to the Council in relation to dealing with these complaints, in accordance with section 262W(1)(e) of the Act.

The Panel affirms that:

- All council members should act in accordance with the standards of behaviour that are expected of them.
- That council members should comply with those standards at all times.
- Where it has been found that a member has not met those standards, that member must comply with any resolutions made by a council, under section 262C of the Act.

Therefore, the Panel reprimands Cr Preece under section 262W(1)(a) of the Act for:

- The offensive behaviour that required the Council's investigation and resolutions.

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- Failing to make the apologies that the Council required of him which compounded the effects of this offensive behaviour, particularly on individuals and groups that were affected by it, exposed the Council to reputational risk and caused significant cost to the Council and the community.

