



Bridge to Opportunity

The Rural City of  
**MURRAY  
BRIDGE**

Local Government Centre  
2 Seventh Street (PO Box 421)  
Murray Bridge SA 5253

T 08 8539 1100  
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council@murraybridge.sa.gov.au  
www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au

ABN 90 501 266 817

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Subject:** Rural City of Murray Bridge Has Say on GM Crops  
**Contact:** Michael Sedgman  
Chief Executive Officer  
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[m.sedgman@murraybridge.sa.gov.au](mailto:m.sedgman@murraybridge.sa.gov.au)  
**Date:** Tuesday 14 July 2020

You can have your say on whether or not the Rural City of Murray Bridge should apply to designate the council area as a non-Genetically Modified crop cultivation area.

The moratorium on growing Genetically Modified (GM) crops in South Australia was lifted by the State Government on 15 May, except for Kangaroo Island. The new legislation provides Council the once-off opportunity to make an application to the Minister for Primary Industries to be designated a non-GM area.

The Minister, in consultation with the GM Crop Advisory Committee, makes the final decision on whether a designation will be made, which would apply over the whole of the Council area.

Council CEO, Michael Sedgman said that for a short time, local councils can make a request to the Minister for Primary Industries & Regional Development to designate our council area as a non-GM crop area, meaning no GM crops could be grown in the area.

“Council does not have the power to decide to be a GM free area, but based on evidence from the appropriate sectors we can apply to the Minister for Primary Industries.

“While there are many views on GM crops, Council does not have a position on lifting the moratorium.

“We are seeking to understand the trade and marketing implications of GM crops on key stakeholders as this is the only evidence Minister will only consider when making his decision.”

Council is seeking feedback from the community, local food producers and manufacturers and associations, to be presented in a report to help Council decide on whether or not we will make a request to the Minister for our region to be a non-GM crop area.

In considering any feedback, Council will take on board all comments but may only present feedback on trade and marketing if an application is made to the Minister.

Consultation is now open, and a survey is available to complete on Council’s “Let’s Talk” website.

**Lerwin Nursing Home**  
67 Joyce Street  
Murray Bridge  
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Murray Bridge  
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**Regional Gallery and Town Hall**  
27 Sixth Street  
Murray Bridge  
T 08 8539 1420

**Visitor Information Centre**  
3 South Terrace  
Murray Bridge  
T 08 8539 1142

**The Station**  
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Consultation closes at 5:00pm on Tuesday 11 August 2020.

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