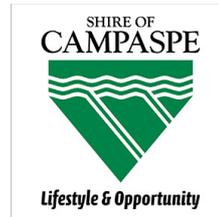




The Hon Damian Drum MP
Federal Member for Murray



18 September 2018

Kate Lemon to lead Aged Care Local Planning Committee

A local planning committee has been appointed to establish, govern and recommend an enhanced model of aged care accommodation in Rochester and district.

Rochester & Elmore District Health Service (REDHS) auspiced by the Campaspe Shire were awarded a \$51,000 grant as part of the \$200 million Regional Jobs and Investment Packages supporting the Australian Government's commitment to stimulate economic growth in Australian regions.

The funding package awarded will be responsible to conduct a feasibility study into models for aged care accommodation for the district including assessing current choices alongside future opportunities including the potential use of vacant land to the south of the current REDHS site.

Federal Member for Murray, the Hon Damian Drum MP said it is important that the Federal Government supports organisations that help our senior population, particularly in the regions.

“As Australians get older and need to enter in to aged care accommodation it is important that they can stay in their own community. It is important that the Federal Government can support REDHS looking at the future of aged care in Rochester an district,” Mr Drum said.

Kate Lemon, current REDHS board director and senior staff member of Campaspe Shire has been appointed as the chair of the local planning committee. “I am very excited to be leading a team of professionals into the assessment of options for the future of aged care in our area,” said Mrs Lemon today. “We will have long term outcomes that will benefit the region beyond the life of this study. This is the future for our area”.

Alongside Ms. Lemon are the following appointed members for the local planning committee;

- Kate Lemon, board director, REDHS
- Ben Devanny, board director, REDHS
- Anne McEvoy, Chief EO, REDHS
- Colin Wellard, Corporate Services Manager REDHS
- Keith Oberin, Economic & Community Development General Manager, Campaspe Shire Council
- Astrid O'Farrell, Investment Attraction Manager, Campaspe Shire Council

The Planning committee has appointed the consultancy firm Biruu health who will be tasked to conduct the feasibility study to identify an appropriate delivery model for aged/disability accommodation in Rochester that will meet the present and future needs of Rochester, Elmore, Lockington and surrounding communities.

“The study will consider what we have now available to the community and where the gaps are. One area we will look at is the potential use of the vacant land to the south of the current nursing home/hostel site for future use,” Ms Lemon said.

There will be community consultations conducted in October with all research finished prior to Christmas”, Ms Lemon stated.

For more information or media opportunities please contact:

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