

Media release

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EPA assists council prepare for new nuisance Act

The Port Pirie Regional Council will be one of the first councils within the state to receive operational support and training from the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) as part of the implementation of the new *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*.

The Act, which will help communities resolve local nuisance and litter complaints more efficiently through their council, is being formally introduced in stages, with the littering components of the legislation becoming operational from 1 February 2017.

The local nuisance provisions will come in to effect on 1 July 2017.

EPA Chief Executive Tony Circelli said the EPA is committed to ensuring local government receive appropriate information and resources to support the implementation of the Act.

“We have been working collaboratively with the Local Government Authority (LGA) and councils to ensure the legislation is well implemented and delivers on its purpose of improved community outcomes relating to local nuisance, litter control and illegal dumping.

“Most local councils in South Australia already manage these issues to some extent, however the Act formalises the role of councils in managing local nuisance issues and provide consistency of services across local government,” he said.

The EPA previously provided training to councils in relation to the litter provisions of the Act in late 2016, in preparation of the 1 February implementation.

“The LGA has been extremely supportive of our involvement in delivering this training. It’s important we are able to provide support to councils during the transition to the new legislation,” Mr Circelli said.

“During this round of training we will be providing a detailed overview of the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016, nuisance provisions, exceptions, nuisance offences, assessments, notices and other provisions,” he said.

“We have agreed to provide dedicated EPA staff to oversee commencement of the legislation and assist councils with the transition. We will also provide councils with access to EPA equipment such as noise meters as well as provide ongoing support as required,” Mr Circelli said.

Training sessions will be delivered to more than 12 councils across regional South Australia and metropolitan Adelaide until the end of May 2017.