

**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **NEW MORGAN SMALL BORE RIFLE CLUB LEASE PROPOSAL AIMS TO INCREASE USE OF MORGAN SPORTS COMPLEX**

The underutilised Morgan Sports Complex could become SA's third competition air rifle venue under a proposal to lease the facility to a local sporting club.

The Mid Murray Council is seeking public feedback on a proposal from the Morgan Small Bore Rifle Club to lease part of the complex and to upgrade the building for use as a competition-level indoor air rifle range.

The proposal follows changes to the facility's Community Land Management Plan which allow the Council to consider issuing leases or licences to organisations to use the complex. Under the previous plan, the site could only be leased to the Morgan Cadell Tigers Sports Club – a group that was disbanded in 2009.

The Council consulted with the community about its proposed changes to the Community Land Management Plan back in August 2021. Subject to community feedback, Council is considering offering a lease to the Morgan Small Bore Rifle Club for the main area of the complex, but retaining common areas for public use. The complex would also still be available for public events and hire under the proposed lease.

If it goes ahead, the lease could see the Morgan Sports Complex become SA's third competition hub, which could increase use of the site and draw more visitors to the town, creating benefits for local businesses and the community. Community consultation will now be held on the proposed Morgan Sports Complex lease to the Morgan Small Bore Rifle Club before any final decision is made by Council on the proposal.

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess said Morgan Small Bore Rifle Club's indoor competition air rifle range concept was an exciting one for Morgan.

"Council's aim through this process to update the Community Land Management Plan has always been to open up opportunities to increase the use of the Morgan Sports Complex to benefit the Morgan community," Mayor Burgess says.

"While the complex has been available for hire in the past, use has been limited and sporadic. If Council can secure a long-term lease with consistent use, this has the potential to bring more people into the town from other areas to discover Morgan and this beautiful part of our region.

"Importantly, Council is listening to the community and will ensure that, if the lease does go ahead, the complex is still available for public use and community events."

Public consultation on the lease proposal opens on 22 December 2021 and runs until 17 January 2022. Find out more about the lease proposal and have your say at [www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au](http://www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au).

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