

27 June 2024

New radio station Flow FM broadcasting to the Shire

In a welcome move a new radio station has started broadcasting to the Shire. A report was provided to the June Council meeting about the new station. It is a good outcome for residents in Central Darling because communications in the remote far west shire can be challenging.

Flow FM has a broadcast headquarters in Regional South Australia near the Barossa Valley at Roseworthy. The 24-hour daily broadcasts include news, agriculture, sport and current affairs, particularly with a rural focus.

The station has already started airing material from the NSW Western Local Land Service, NSW Western Pastoralists and Ivanhoe Rugby. With more local content to come as it becomes established in our communities. People can tune in locally on the following frequencies:

- Menindee 101.3 FM up and running
- Wilcannia 106.3 FM up and running
- Ivanhoe 101.3 FM up and running
- White Cliffs105.1 FM due to be up and running within a matter of weeks.

There has been a lot of work go into the leadup to the service being established. Flow Media (Flow FM) obtained a grant from the NSW Government Regional Media Fund in 2023 to fund equipment and installation of commercial radio services to the towns. Council is providing infrastructure and equipment room space at each site and ongoing electricity. While Flow FM is providing planning and implementation, engineering and licensing, the transmission equipment and ongoing maintenance.

The initial licensing is in the name of Council. The reason for this was to speed up the process with the licenses. Flow Media agreed to pay for the initial licensing and then transfer them into the Flow name once established, placing them in the License Area Plan for the ACMA Remote Central Zone Commercial license and into common law. Ends

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