

BERRI LIBRARY RELOCATION

A 24-year partnership with the Dept. of Education for the Berri Library will come to an end in December 2024. The current Kay Avenue, Berri site is needed to accommodate the Berri Regional Secondary College expansion. To ensure this important library service remain accessible to the community, Council must find a suitable facility for a stand-alone Council library.

As the only property currently available with a central location, appropriate size and open plan format, the Council owned 29 Riverview Drive, Berri property has been given in-principle Council support, to host the new library.

With significant repairs and refurbishments required the estimated value of the project, including the fit out of the library, is \$800K. This investment is likely to increase the property's overall value and provide a potential return to ratepayers as an existing community asset.

Engagement will take place with the community on the library services and the long term future of this significant asset.

Expressions of interest are currently being called for the library and community space strategy group, please visit www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au for future information and to submit your expression of interest.

Council's planning and strategy committee will consider the further details of the library relocation project at the June meeting.

The proposed relocation of the library to 29 Riverview Drive does not preclude other options being considered as part of an integrated civic precinct. Council is keen to maximise the public value offered by its buildings and would like community input regarding the best approach to long term accommodation of Council services.

The comprehensive review of community facilities across the district will continue in the 2023-24 financial year in a strategic accommodation review project that will take more time than the deadline for the library relocation allows.

The consideration of Council's former office and Council chamber building at 19 Wilson Street, Berri, which was vacated in January 2023 for safety reasons will be a priority as part of this process.

For media enquiries:

Contact Cathy LeMaistre, Executive Services and Communications Coordinator, on 8582 1922, or email clemaistre@bbc.sa.gov.au