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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Committee for Ballarat Chairman to step down**

Inaugural chair of the Committee for Ballarat Mr Noel Coxall has announced his resignation from the position, to take effect from the Committee's next Board meeting on July 11.

Mr Coxall announced his decision to the Annual General Meeting of the Committee in Ballarat on Thursday evening.

He said he was proud of having helped the Committee establish a solid foothold in its first 12 months and was confident it had a strong future.

“The first months are the toughest in the establishment of a new organisation such as the Committee and it has been great to have had the support and assistance to bring it to a position of strength and effectiveness,” he said.

“I am proud that we have already achieved important outcomes and set in place the structure which will ensure more in the future,” Mr Coxall said.

“I am particularly proud of the instrumental role we played in securing the \$265 million from the Federal Government for the Deer Park Bypass and also the establishment of Leadership Ballarat and Western Region, which will ensure a strong flow of future leaders.

“There is now a well established organisation which a new chairman can continue to take forward in the best interests of Ballarat and the region.

“The Committee for Ballarat is not about one person, but all its membership. I am confident that the depth of talent in the executive and board will ensure a highly competent replacement.”

He added that, in resigning, he was also conscious of potential developments in his private business which could, at a future point, compromise the role of chairman.

“By stepping down at this time I can personally be confident, whatever transpires in my business activities in the future, I have eliminated any such potential and the role of chairman is protected.”

Mr Coxall will continue as an active member of the Committee’s executive and board.

Mayor of Ballarat, Cr David Vendy, complimented Mr Coxall for his work as chairman of the Committee in its initial 12 months.

He also said he respected Mr Coxall’s decision to step down, but hoped he could continue to play an effective role within the Committee and the community.

“People with Noel Coxall’s enthusiasm and drive are important in any community and the effectiveness of the Committee for Ballarat in its first 12 months is testimony to that,” he said.

“Noel has made a difficult decision to stand aside but has left the structures and processes in place which will serve the new chairman, and the Committee, well in the future.”

Executive director of the Committee, Mr Ross Haby, said the process to elect a new chairman was already underway and would be finalised in time for Mr Coxall’s formal departure in July.

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