



Hindmarsh Shire Council | PO Box 250 | 92 Nelson Street Nhill VIC 3418 | Ph: 03 5391 4444 |  
Fax: 03 5391 1376 | Email: [info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au)

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Council Considering to Advocate for Community Water Fluoridation**

Approximately 90% of Victorians currently receive fluoridated drinking water in Victoria. Water fluoridation means that fluoride, a naturally occurring mineral, is added to your local water supply. Fluoride acts like a 'repair kit' for the early stages of tooth decay by strengthening the tooth's mineral structure. This is particularly important for young people as fluoride, along with a healthy diet and good oral hygiene practices, is a key preventative tool against cavities and a lifetime of expensive and complex dental treatments.

Hindmarsh Shire Mayor, Cr Ron Ismay said, "As fluoridation is not available anywhere in Hindmarsh Shire, Council wants to know whether the community would like us to advocate for a water fluoridation program for the town water supplies in Nhill, Jeparit, Rainbow and Dimboola?"

Cr Ismay further stated that "It is important that feedback is received from all ages, especially young people and families who may benefit from fluoridation in the prevention of tooth decay".

Submissions from the community will be considered, prior to any Council decision to advocate for the implementation of the program.

For more information about the proposed water fluoridation program or to make a submission, please visit Council's website [www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/have-your-say](http://www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/have-your-say), contact us on 03 5391 4444 or email [info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au).

Submissions close at midday on Wednesday 30 June 2021.

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Greg Wood  
**Chief Executive Officer**