



# CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

## MEDIA RELEASE

September 14 2022

### Major road project reaching half-way

A three-year road sealing project - known as the Pooncarie Road project - between Menindee and the southern edge of the Shire towards Pooncarie is reaching the half-way point. This is a particularly important milestone with the work being on track following earlier difficulties because of rain.

Council staff have been striving to catch up lost time with the project after it fell behind schedule by about two-months because of wet weather earlier this year. Another 5km stretch of the road has now just been completed. This latest work means 29 kilometres of the road has been sealed. The total project is 61 kilometres.

The 61-kilometre stretch of Pooncarie Road desperately needs sealing to improve road safety and enable Council to keep the road open during wet conditions. At the moment because the road is mostly closed during wet weather – due to being unsealed - many travellers face a much longer journey via alternative routes.

Progress on this project is very much weather dependent, but if all goes well on the weather front it is anticipated that by the end of this year 40 to 45 kilometres of the road will be sealed.

It is a \$39.6 million project with the Federal government having committed \$27.1 million and the State government \$12.5 million for the works.

#### Ends

Media Contact: Gabrielle Johnston 0472 787 022