

# Joint venture plan to reopen Strathalbyn abattoir



*Primary Industries Minister David Basham, left, shakes hands with Fleurieu Community Co-operative board chair David Parsons.*

**LOUIS MAYFIELD**

The State Government and the Fleurieu Community Co-operative have joined forces to resurrect the Strathalbyn Abattoir through a joint \$3.5m investment which is tipped to create up to 20 ongoing jobs.

The abattoir closed in late 2020 following an economic downturn which made the business no longer viable, but is set to open later this year.

Last week the project to reopen the abattoir was boosted with a \$1.5m State Government cash injection.

Fleurieu Community Cooperative board chair David Parsons said the group had been formed with

Regional Development Australia and accounting firm PKF and would operate the abattoir as a team.

"It's owned by the users so we can develop something that is in the interest of the Fleurieu community – the board will get the process going and we're well down that track now thanks to funding from the State Government," he said.

"This is an acknowledgement of a more bespoke kind of abattoir where we develop paddock to plate solutions where growers can focus on high-quality output."

Primary Industries and Regional Development Minister David Basham said the new model of the abattoir would be more secure.

"There will be a process for the meat to go directly into

supermarkets," he said.

"This gives farmers great access to a specialised market – that paddock to plate experience people are looking for, it's really targeting that end."

Mr Basham said the funding would be used to repair and upgrade the existing facilities and implement an automated abattoir booking management system.

"The abattoir will require a significant upgrade to bring it up to the standards that we have today ... this is effectively going to be a new abattoir in the way it operates," he said.

Work on upgrading the abattoir will begin "as soon as possible" with the goal of having it operational by July-August this year.