

ADDRESSING OUR COMMUNITY'S SAFETY CONCERNS



SAM TELFER MP

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Right up and down the Eyre Peninsula, there has been a great amount of concern over recent months regarding community safety and the rise of anti-social behaviour, but especially in our major centres of Port Lincoln and Ceduna.

I have met with Superintendent Paul Bahr to discuss how we can better address the challenges our communities are faced with when it comes to early intervention programs to ensure our children are directed away from anti-social elements.

Recent announcements by the state government of the addition of new Policy Safety Officers will not address the challenges we are facing.

We need more officers who have more resources, and I will use my shadow responsibility for Police to the best of my ability to deliver better outcomes right across the Eyre Peninsula when it comes to community safety.

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2023



city-centric Under Labor's Budget



Electricity prices & inflation - highest in the nation

Labor's Budget does next to nothing to help South Australians struggling with soaring rents, mortgages, and power prices.



A typically city-centric Labor Budget

Almost a quarter of new "regional spending" is earmarked for an area which the government's own website doesn't define as regional.



Regional roads left to deteriorate

There is a staggering \$3 billion road maintenance backlog, significantly impacting the safety of people driving on country roads.



Regions left out of health funding

Labor has ignored pleas to increase the PATS overnight subsidy and their budget has no plan to attract more country doctors and nurses.

Labor's Budget delivers next to nothing for regional South Australians.



WE NEED A REX-PLANATION!

The recent reductions in flight services to Ceduna by REX Airlines are an extremely disappointing development for residents of the Far West.

Although REX has declared they will continue to provide reduced services to Ceduna, their decision to cease services into Whyalla is of great concern to residents of the Eastern Eyre, particularly in Cowell and Kimba, who rely on Whyalla Airport services to travel to Adelaide, as well as their decision to reduce flights into Port Lincoln impacting those on the southern EP.

I have been working with my federal colleague, Rowan Ramsey, and my state colleagues to seek an explanation from REX Airlines as to when these services will be restored.

To date, we are yet to receive any firm date as to when these services will be restored.

I will continue to lobby REX to return these vital services to the Eyre Peninsula and remind those who make these decisions that, for residents of the EP, flight services are less about tourism and more about health and education.

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2023 MORTLOCK SHIELD CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the team of volunteers who put together the 2023 Mortlock Shield, and also especially to Western Eyre, the 2023 champions! It's a fantastic event, which takes a lot of effort to all involved, so congratulations to the entire team, and coach Darren Bennett on breaking a 33 year drought for the West Coast!

Congratulations also go to Lincoln Districts, who took out the Under 15s Norwood Cup, going through the carnival undefeated. It's great to see community footy thriving, and the Eyre Peninsula unite for one of our great local traditions.

KIMBA HEALTHCARE

It was a great honour to attend the opening of the Leo Schaefer Memorial Health Centre in Kimba.

The District Council of Kimba have done an enormous amount of work, and invested considerable funds, into attracting doctors to the town and are to be commended for their efforts and perseverance.

However, this should not be the responsibility of Council, and the neglect of both the state and federal governments in providing sustainable healthcare solutions for our regions has caused many issues challenges right across the Eyre Peninsula.

I will continue to work with the Federal Member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey, to address these critical shortfalls in our healthcare system and to ensure we have access to quality healthcare right across the Eyre Peninsula, as it is essential that we have appropriate care to look after our people and maximise the economic opportunities in our region.



FIGHTING FOR MORE CHILDCARE

Providing families with the opportunity to make the best decisions for themselves is something I am passionate about. There is nothing more important in this regard than ensuring sufficient childcare options are available, and far too many of our towns on the Eyre Peninsula are left not just with a lack of childcare placements, but sometimes no childcare options at all.

I recently met with the Federal Minister for Early Childhood Education, Angie Bell, in Cummins, to discuss how we can offer more options to our young families, and grow not just our local economy, but our population as well.

There's no use trying to create more jobs if parents don't have access to childcare, and I will keep looking at every option to help our young families.

OUR JETTIES DESERVE BETTER

There are 35 jetties across South Australia which are operated and managed by councils and in dire need of investment on behalf of a state Labor government keen to pass the buck.

The small amount of funding in the recent state budget is barely a drop in the bucket given Tumby Bay jetty, alone, will require four million dollars worth of repair work to be brought up to standard. This city centric government clearly does not understand the importance of jetties to our regional economies, particularly at the height of tourism season, when visitors flock to our regions to enjoy the simple pleasures in life, such as fishing and swimming. I will continue to work with our local councils to find the funds needed to bring our jetties up to scratch, especially while this state Labor government continues to ignore regional South Australia.



WOMBAT BURROWS

The Labor Government recently introduced legislation which could have an enormous impact on farmers right across the EP.

The bill, in short, means that anyone who "disturbs" a wombat burrow in a designated area is guilty of a crime.


This bill has been poorly thought through, provides little clarity or definition, and could make it immensely more difficult for farmers to go about their everyday business of farming operations and land management.

I will continue working with my rural and regional colleagues to highlight the issues with what the government has put in place with no real understanding of land management in areas with significant wombat populations.

FLINDERS PHOTO COMPETITION

Thank you to the first entrant, Marie Clark, in my Flinders photo competition! This stunning photo, taken at Colton, is a perfect example of the beauty of the Eyre Peninsula. There's still plenty of time for you to enter your own photo and go into the draw for some great prizes, including dinner for four at Parliament House.

To enter, email your photo to flinders@parliament.sa.gov.au. Photos must be at least 4MB, titled, and labelled with their location.

APOLOGY

Recent adverse weather conditions on the Lower Eyre Peninsula have impacted the road surfaces of the overtaking lanes on Flinders Highway and Western Approach Road. We acknowledge the community's frustration, particularly regarding the multiple remediation works undertaken, and assure everyone that we are working to fix this as soon as practically possible.

On behalf of the PW2PA Alliance, we sincerely apologise for the poor road surface and resulting frustrations caused by our ongoing work.

ROADWORKS ON THE LOWER EYRE

My frustrations about the time taken and the quality of the work done on the overtaking lane projects on the southern Eyre are well known, and I'm sure shared by many. I recently spoke again with the CEO of the Department about my ongoing concerns regarding the quality of work which has been delivered, and the time it has taken while the community continues to be affected. I sought reassurance that there was some positive action happening and that the community be informed of what the plan is.

I impressed on him the reason that the work was failing was because of the poor workmanship, and the need for there to be an appropriate hot-mix surface put in. I have also been regularly seeking assurance from the Minister that the extra time and work which has been undertaken hasn't been at the cost of the taxpayer, and the Minister has on multiple occasions assured me that the contractors have been the ones who have been footing the bill. Interestingly, there was an recent advertisement in the local papers from PW2PA, the head contractor. They were apologising to the public about the time and workmanship, and I hope it is a sign that they are going to finally do a proper job, and get it done as soon as possible.

I will continue to be pushing them until this happens!

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