

## Frome Electorate Office



Geoff Brock MP, Member for Frome

4<sup>th</sup> June 2012 Media Statement

## State Budget 2012/13

Firstly, it would be remiss of me to not acknowledge that our State and the community of Frome are working through an austere economic period. The 2012/13 State Budget speaks to that.

I could adopt the 'glass half empty' mentality or, as I plan to, choose to be positive and very optimistic about our future.

In being positive, I graciously accept the funds the Weatherill Government has set aside for key studies to aid Port Pirie's long term growth strategy.

This funding allocation is a result of my direct and tireless lobbying. I have worked collaboratively with the Port Pirie Regional Council and RDA Yorke & Mid North and together we have formulated some very positive strategies for our region's long term viability.

I wish to remind all constituents that now is the time to come forward with your visions and your solution focussed strategies on how to build on our existing strengths as a region. My door is always open and I am eager to listen and progress any positive ideas.

I see the next 18 months as being crucial to positioning Port Pirie and the wider community of Frome, to be **the** destination for all key stakeholders in mining and anyone who recognises this region as a suitable place to invest.

I have said it before and I state it again, 'Port Pirie and the surrounding district is open for business.'

Lastly I wish to acknowledge that people are struggling with cost of living pressures and I re-commit to advocating for a better deal for regional constituents.

Major items on my list include securing funding for a business case into safeguarding our long term water requirements, a continued push for a better deal in terms of the Patients Assistance Transport Scheme (PATS) and more equitable charging of water accounts for all Housing SA tenants with shared meters.

Bock

GEOFF BROCK MP Member for Frome