

# News Release Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development  
Minister for Local Government

Tuesday, 10 June, 2014

## Minister meets with RDA Chairs in Adelaide

Regional Development Minister, Geoff Brock today re-affirmed annual State Government funding of \$3 million for the seven Regional Development Australia boards across South Australia.

Speaking after a meeting with RDA Board Chairs in Adelaide today, Mr Brock said he wanted the best results-driven outcome for regional communities from this funding to support economic growth, improved infrastructure and job creation in the regions.

“I initially announced this funding on April 15 this year and, as I’ve travelled across the regions, some RDA’s asked for further clarity about the structure of their funding arrangements beyond July 1 this year,” Mr Brock said.

“I can re-affirm the \$3 million funding for the seven boards will continue next financial year as part of my agreement with the Premier.

“Without that agreement, RDA funding from July 1 would have remained at \$1.4 million.

“The funding will be made up of \$1.6 million in new funding which I negotiated with the Premier on top of the existing \$1.4 million currently available to the RDA’s.

“The \$3 million is over and above the funding the RDA’s receive from the Federal Government and local councils,” Mr Brock said.

“At today’s meeting, I asked the RDA Chairs and Regions SA to work together to establish a new framework for regional collaboration beyond June 30 next year based on merit based proposals and program-driven initiatives.

“The meeting agreed that they should aim to have a working document prepared within three months to further progress this proposal so new arrangements can be put in place from July 1 next year.

“Funding for regional projects is also available through the enlarged \$15 million Regional Development Fund – which has been significantly boosted by \$13.4 million a year through my agreement with the Premier.

“Two of the four new RDF programs – the Small Grants Program (\$3 million over four years) and the Regional Food Initiatives Program (\$300,000 a year over four years) – are currently open until June 27,” Mr Brock said.

Executive Chair of Regional Development SA, Rob Kerin said good progress had been made at today’s meeting and he was looking forward to working towards a positive outcome from the discussions in the coming months.