

Premier Jay Weatherill

Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Local Government

Monday, 24 November, 2014

Cabinet meets in the State's West Coast

The South Australian Government has conducted its third Country Cabinet meeting of the year in Streaky Bay, following a successful public forum in Ceduna on Sunday night.

This week's Country Cabinet visit to the West Coast covers the Ceduna, Streaky Bay, Elliston and Wudinna council regions.

Premier Jay Weatherill said that visit is an important way for his Cabinet Ministers to gain a better understanding of issues facing South Australians living in the West Coast.

"I am delighted to be here in the scenic West Coast of South Australia to listen to the issues facing people, businesses and their communities," Mr Weatherill said.

"This is an area that is internationally renowned for its seafood and is a community that is facing a diverse range of challenges and opportunities.

"Issues around environmental protection and the wellbeing of Aboriginal people were both hot topics at last night's forum, where we met dozens of locals who were keen to have their voices heard by Government.

"Last night we met with dozens of locals in both one-on-one meetings and the larger public forum where a diverse range of issues were canvassed with myself and Government Ministers.

"It's one thing to listen to issues – it's another thing to properly respond and that is what my Government is committed to doing for the people of the West Coast.

Minister for Regional Development Geoff Brock said that the regions have a strong voice within the South Australian Government.

"It is great to be here on the West Coast, speaking with people from the Ceduna, Elliston, Streaky Bay & Wudinna communities," Mr Brock said.

"In my agreement with the Premier to form Government, I have asked for Cabinet to meet three times each year in the regions to ensure people across the State are involved in decision making.

"We have also launched the third round of the Fund My Idea program, which provides a share of \$50,000 to fund community projects thanks to the State Government's Regional Development Fund."

Cabinet met with local Mayors before this morning's Cabinet meeting which will be followed by a business and community luncheon in Streaky Bay.

The Country Cabinet visit to the West Coast follows previous meeting this year in the Riverland and the Adelaide Hills.

Detail about the 2015 program of Country Cabinets will be announced in the new year.

For more information about the Fund My Idea program, visit yoursay.sa.gov.au/fundmyidea