

## Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development  
Minister for Local Government

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### \$384,000 grant assists development of new cultural precinct for Clare

A new 'market plaza' style space will create jobs and transform the heart of Clare as part of the development of a new food, wine and cultural precinct with support from the State Government's Regional Development Fund.

Regional Development Minister, Geoff Brock said that the project would attract more visitors to Clare and provide a gathering place for community and cultural activities.

"Clare is already on the map for its outstanding offerings to tourists, but this new project will lift that to another level," Mr Brock said.

"The redevelopment supported with a \$384,000 grant from the Community Infrastructure Program will link the Clare Town Hall, Ennis Park, the Clare Valley Discovery Centre and the Clare Courthouse to create a Food, Wine and Cultural Precinct in the town of Clare.

"All this construction work will see the creation of up to 9 jobs directly and up to 10 ongoing jobs created by 2016-17 through the development of commercial opportunities in this space.

"Moreover, the expected increase in visitors to the precinct and associated activities, such as markets and arts events will have an economic multiplier effect, which will flow directly into employment growth across all service industries in the region.

"New commercial enterprises, a dedicated space for events, and new park landscaping and facilities are all part of the redevelopment," Mr Brock said.

"Ennis Park in the heart of Clare will gain a better rain and shade shelter, as well as a water feature with outdoor sculptures from local artists making the area even more inviting.

"The Clare Town Hall will be renovated with a verandah and new expansive entrance to open it out onto the Park and offer a versatile 'market plaza' community space.

"Inside, the ground floor of the Town Hall will be made more useable and flexible and a lift will improve access to the upper floor. Pathways will link the Clare Valley Discovery Centre to the new Ennis Plaza and to car parking areas bringing visitors into the heart of the Clare CBD.

"This development is a great example of how the State Government's expanded \$15 million a year Regional Development Fund is supporting South Australia's rural communities," Mr Brock said.

Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council Mayor, Allan Aughey said that the creation of the precinct was a key element of the Clare and Gilbert Valleys' Community Plan.

"To be able to move forward confidently with this project is a real boon thanks to the Regional Development Fund grant," Mayor Aughey said.

"We are looking forward to showcasing the Clare township through this new central meeting place by providing a venue for a vibrant farmers' market venue and many other cultural and community uses, including indoor and outdoor arts events.

"Clare is geographically and economically a key player in the tourism of the region. By developing this Food, Wine and Cultural Precinct, we will be able to bring a focus to promoting our region's outstanding food and wine even better than before.

"This project means a lot to local residents too. It involves collaborative work across a range of regional bodies and will ultimately create a positive and meaningful space in the town for people to come together for events and other community gatherings.

"We are looking to complete this project by the end of 2015 and are looking forward to increased visitors to the area, and the positive impact on local and regional businesses, as a result," Mayor Aughey said.