

Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Local Government

Sunday, 29 March, 2015

New Development Officer for Peterborough

A new full time Community Development Officer will soon be working from a 'One Stop Shop' in Peterborough's main street to support and promote economic and social service projects and programs for the town.

Regional Development Minister, Geoff Brock made the announcement in Peterborough today as part of the State Government's Country Cabinet visit to the Mid North.

"The creation of this Community Development Officer position is a direct response to what the community in Peterborough has told me is vitally important," Mr Brock said.

"Earlier this month, I met with local community leaders in Peterborough, including the Mayor and the Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North Chief Executive.

"They told me about the urgent need for government services to be better coordinated and the importance of having a physical presence at a central location in the town to support those requirements.

"The new Community Development Officer will be easily accessible through the 'One Stop Shop' on Main Street, Peterborough, and will be available to the community on a full time basis.

"This valuable new community position will be funded over the next three years through the State Government's enhanced Regional Development Fund.

The position will be delivered through Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North with close support of the Peterborough Council," Mr Brock said.

Chair of the RDA Yorke and Mid North Board, Kay Matthias said the stronger coordination of services and economic development for the town would have a profound effect.

"The Peterborough community needs effective local community service coordination and this new position is a significant step towards achieving that," Ms Matthias said.

"RDA welcomes the opportunity to work with the Peterborough District Council to deliver this new role, which is a very good fit with our status of bringing together all levels of government in the Yorke and Mid North region."

Peterborough District Council Mayor, Ruth Whittle said the State Government's support of this role would have a genuine impact in the Peterborough community.

“Peterborough faces some major issues, such as high unemployment, jobless families, substance abuse and mental health problems,” Ms Whittle said.

“Support services have been dependent on delivery from other regional centres with no local coordination.

“A dedicated full time person working on the main street to coordinate government support, and provide a kickstart focus for employment and other projects and processes is a great new vision for the existing, currently vacant, ‘One Stop Shop’ facility,” she said