



Frome Electorate Office

Hon Geoff Brock MP, Member for Frome



Media Release

20th September 2016

Children's lead levels in Port Pirie – Half Year Analysis 2016

It is pleasing to see there is continued improvement in the percentage of children with blood lead levels below the previous National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) recommendation of 10ug/dl -80.5% which is 2.3% better than last year.

The first half 2016 analysis of Port Pirie Children's blood levels shows there has been a decrease of (1.5ug/dl) in the average blood lead level for 2 year old children, which is the best result in the past decade for this reporting period.

The TLAP program assesses current and potential future community lead exposure reductions strategies and I understand they have been working closely with families and organisations in the 2 year and under age group.

The average blood lead level for the population of Port Pirie children under five years of age tested in the first half 2016 is (4.4 ug/dl) which is below the NHMRC's exposure investigation level of 5 – this level is slightly lower compared to the same reporting period last year (4.6ug/dl) and down (3ug/dl) lower than a decade ago.

The Nyrstar redevelopment will not only secure the future of the Plant for many years, but will also be a catalyst for further reductions in the lead in blood of our children.

The communities of Port Pirie and surrounding areas are also to be congratulated with being an integral part of this great result.

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