

News releases - Geoff Brock

Facelift for historic Burra tourism accommodation

Geoff Brock October 25, 2016

Burra's heritage listed Paxton Square Cottages built in 1849 are set to be upgraded and modernised with support from a \$200,000 State Government Regional Development Fund grant.

The \$1.2 million project - undertaken by the Regional Council of Goyder - will underpin the rebranding of the Paxton Square Cottages as a boutique and contemporary accommodation complex integrated into a unique historic setting.

The 32 cottage tourism complex will be repurposed to a 3.5 star rated or equivalent standard facility featuring a modern design and décor, as well as incorporating energy efficient additions.

The existing Bible Christian Chapel will be adapted to create a communal meeting space for guests.

The upgrade, supported by the RDF's Community Infrastructure Program, will create two ongoing full time jobs in addition to six jobs during construction.

Background

The State Government's Regional Development Fund drives economic growth through grants to boost investment in regional infrastructure and the creation of jobs in South Australia.

According to independent analysis, projects awarded grants through Rounds 1 and 2 of the RDF created 2,265 regional jobs and contributed \$933 million to the South Australian economy in 2015-16.

In the Yorke and Mid North, RDF projects from Rounds 1 and 2 created around 350 jobs and contributed \$104 million to the economy in 2015-16.

Quotes attributable to Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock

Tourism is a key economic driver for Burra and the surrounding region.

The upgrade and rebranding of the Paxton Square Cottages will support greater tourism in the area which aligns with the State Government's economic priority of 'South Australia – a growing destination choice for international and domestic travellers'.

The cottages are the largest and most prominent accommodation option in Burra and this upgrade will provide a modern, comfortable offering for tourists to the Clare Valley tourism region.

The upgraded facilities will cater for the boutique festival market, as well as the corporate and international tourism markets.

Quotes attributable to Regional Council of Goyder Mayor Peter Matthey

Thanks to the Regional Development Fund, we will be able to create a facility in Burra unlike any other, with capacity to accommodate boutique events or groups.

The upgrade of the Paxton Square Cottages will support Burra's initiative to become the 'home of the boutique festival', which will bring a range of festival experiences to the town and the wider Goyder community.

We are looking to promote the cottages to a new market that will significantly increase the cottage occupancy, particularly during the non-traditional tourism periods in Burra.