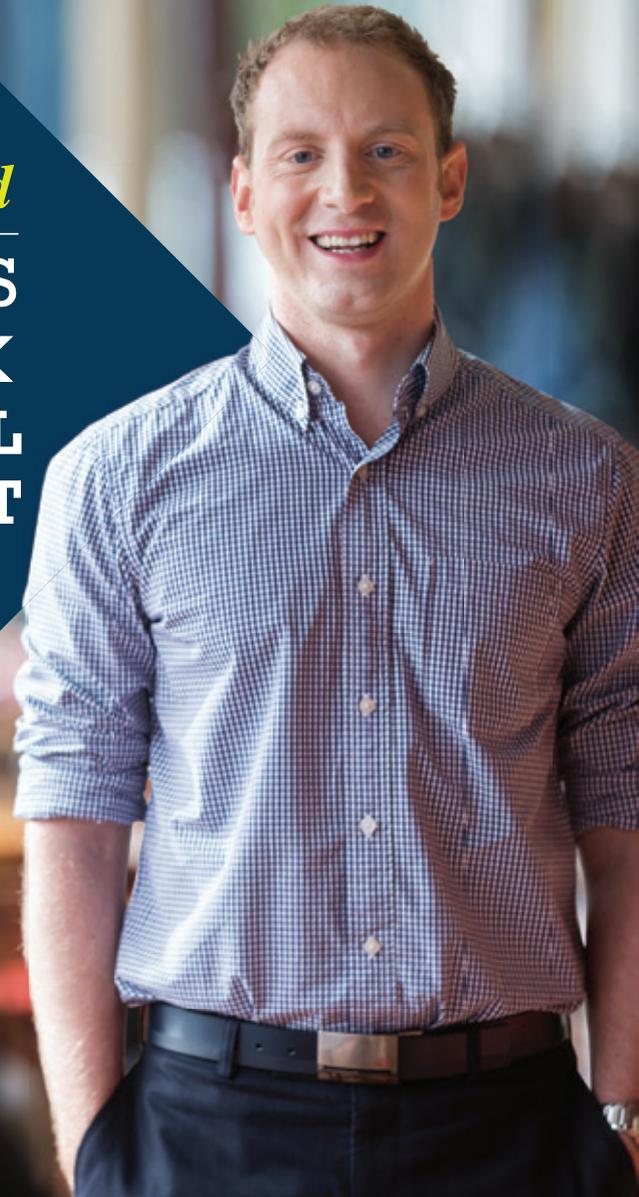


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SPEIRS

2015 / 2016

ANNUAL
REPORT



Someone once said to me that I would find being in Opposition frustrating as it is only government MPs who have the power to drive change. I could have taken this one of two ways: I could have used it as an excuse to sit back and relax for the term, or I could see it as a challenge to prove them wrong and use my position as a local MP to make things happen. I chose the latter.

Through tenacious advocacy, building relationships, advancing ideas and providing leadership, I have spent my first two years in office working hard to deliver for our community.

I hope that you have noticed a distinctive shift since my election in the sort of representation our community gets. I don't just live in this community, I **live** this community. It's my backyard as well as yours and I will always put you first.

As part of this commitment to our community, I will remain accountable to the people who have supported me, worked alongside me, invested in me and believed in me. This annual report outlines some of our achievements during the past 12 months and is made publicly available to enable local people to measure my performance against my priorities.

I look forward to working with you to achieve more for this beautiful patch of South Australia in the coming years.



David Speirs, Member for Bright





6 PRIORITIES



When I ran for election, I worked with our community to develop six priorities which shape my approach to being your local representative.

These priorities are a measurable way to ensure that I am achieving things for you and, each year, I intend to stay accountable by providing an annual report on my progress.



Priority 1: Building stronger, healthier communities where people have a sense of belonging and feel connected

In the past year I continued to focus my energy on many activities which build stronger communities.

Some of our achievements include:

- developing Beach for All, which saw a moveable pathway placed on Seacliff Beach, making it South Australia's first accessible beach
- partnering with Sturt police to host a community safety listening post at Hallett Cove Shopping Centre (following the Government's closure of the police station)
- supporting six Neighbourhood Watch groups and working alongside Lions, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, surf and sporting clubs and residents groups to help them make a difference in our community
- co-hosting a networking event for Surf Life Saving Club Presidents and Members of Parliament to support and promote the work of our surf clubs (in my role as co-convener of Parliamentary Friends of Surf Life Saving)
- fighting for the Anzac memorial at Hallett Cove foreshore and giving the inaugural Anzac morning address
- convening two church leaders functions so local church leaders and chaplains can connect, hear from each other and work together
- running the Bright Christmas Appeal; fundraising for Marino Community Garden, Beach for All and World Vision
- hosting a volunteers garden party to celebrate those who give selflessly to our community.



Priority 2: Supporting small business to get off the ground, grow and create jobs

Small businesses are a vital foundation of our economy; creating jobs and sustaining prosperity. I will work to support small businesses whenever I can.

This year my work has included:

- launching a 'shop local' campaign to encourage people to use services and businesses in our local area
- developing and distributing a Community Business Directory to help promote local businesses and provide residents with a way to find local shops and services operating in our community
- hosting a local business breakfast with Raymond Spencer, Chair of South Australia's Economic Development Board
- supporting the establishment of the Hallett Cove Business Association; helping local businesses come together to collaborate, network and learn.



Priority 3: Fix Brighton Road

Brighton Road is Adelaide's main coastal thoroughfare, yet it is plagued by congestion and, despite some resurfacing, its condition leaves a lot to be desired.

My campaign to fix Brighton Road includes:

- continuing to lobby for improvements to the surface of Brighton Road which saw extensive 'patching' undertaken between Brighton and Somerton Park in February 2016
- continuing to make representations to the government regarding upgrading the Brighton Road/Edwards Street intersection, which is increasingly busy and complex
- campaigning to improve the condition and visual amenity of the median strip on Brighton Road
- continuing to fight for a quarry haul road to redirect the many Boral trucks from Brighton Road to the south of the quarry and immediately onto Majors Road and South Road
- working alongside the Cement Hill site owners and local government to see improvements to the Scholefield/Lonsdale Road intersection form a major part of the Cement Hill development.



Priority 4: Creating a public transport system that is modern, safe and reliable

The great cities of the world are often characterised by strong public transport systems. Our local transport network has many problems and ensuring the quality of our train system remains one of my biggest campaigns.

This year my work has included:

- staying in touch with the issues faced daily by commuters by using train travel as my mode of transport on parliamentary sitting days
- continually campaigning against the noise pollution caused by the train horns, successfully getting the government to agree to undertake various improvements including repositioning the horn and acoustic work to improve the pitch
- persistently pushing for the government to improve the overall aesthetics of the railway corridor; addressing overgrown vegetation, re-vegetating where necessary and tackling graffiti.



Priority 5: Protecting our precious coastal environment and the character of our communities

I've chosen to live in this community because of its natural beauty, character and precious coastal environment. Preserving this place will always be at the forefront of my work.

This year my work has included:

- supporting local environmental 'Friends' groups and council environmental initiatives
- launching a campaign to tidy up unsightly buildings on our main roads
- coordinating a coastal planting day with Hallett Cove R-12 School students
- working alongside the Environment Protection Authority and other stakeholders to minimise the impact of Linwood Quarry and ResourceCO concrete crushing works – both located in the vicinity of residential developments
- mounting a campaign against the damaging Minda development on the North Brighton dunes, including representing community members at the Environment, Resources and Development Committee's hearing on this matter.





Priority 6 : Providing our seniors with the support and respect they deserve

Seniors have given so much to our community over many years and, as they age, they must be given the support and respect they deserve.

My commitment to seniors includes:

- hosting four seniors forums attended by a total of 430 people on topics including:
 - accommodation options
 - finance
 - consumer protection
 - travelling in your senior years
- regularly supporting events at local retirement villages and nursing homes, including the Remembrance Day lunch at Alwyndor Aged Care and the Every Generation Festival at Somerton Park Seniors Living Community
- personally delivering flowers and cards to 91 locals turning 90.



BEACH

— FOR ALL —

Seeing Seacliff Beach become South Australia's first accessible beach was the proudest moment of my career to date.

On Australia Day, Charlie Rowland, a 17-year-old Seacliff Park resident and spinal atrophy sufferer, was able to travel down the beach access pathway and cut the ribbon as our inaugural user, reaching the water's edge without his family carrying him for the first time in his life. It was an emotional moment for everyone present, including me.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Beach for All would not have been possible without the partnership of Surf Life Saving SA and Seacliff Surf Life Saving Club.



Welcome mat rolls out for wheelchairs

SHERADYNN HOLDERHEAD
POLITICAL REPORTER

FEW experiences beat the smell of a salty sea breeze and the sound of waves crashing on the shore but the beach is not the most inviting location for everyone.

For South Australians who use a wheelchair, walking stick, frame and even parents with prams, a trip to the coast can be fraught with problems.

But not anymore. Charlie Rowland, 17, is among the first people to try out a beach access mat that helps people on wheels to get across the soft sand to the shoreline.

Charlie, who has spinal muscular atrophy, has been in a wheelchair most of his life and missing out on beach time.

Liberal MP David Speirs helped roll out the beach mat at Seacliff yesterday.

It was part funded by a crowd-funding website he had launched that raised more than \$3000 for the project.

Mr Speirs partnered with Surf Life Saving SA and Seacliff Surf Life Saving Club to trial the state's first access mat.

The Rotary Club of Brighton, Lions Club of Hallett Cove and City of Holdfast Bay Council donated additional funds.

The mat will be rolled out during Seacliff surf lifesaving patrols – on weekends and public holidays between November and March – and direct users toward the safest part of the beach between the flags.

"Beaches are unfriendly places for wheelchairs and crossing sand can be difficult for people using walking sticks and frames, and even prams," Mr Speirs said.

"The support that we've received from the community for this initiative has been overwhelming."

Liberal leader Steven Marshall said the initiative could be extended across metropolitan beaches.

"It's absolutely wonderful that we're able to provide beach access for everyone. It's long overdue," he said.



REPORT CARD

IN THE COMMUNITY

- ✓ attended **285** community events
- ✓ hosted **four seniors forums**
- ✓ raised over \$500 for six charitable causes across four seniors forums
- ✓ ran a successful Christmas appeal that raised \$373.80
- ✓ hosted a Christmas function celebrating volunteers
- ✓ hosted **10** tours of Parliament House
- ✓ **assisted an average of 55 constituents per week with their local, state and federal issues**
- ✓ sent over **1,000** handwritten birthday and anniversary cards
- ✓ launched a Community Business Directory

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- ✓ distributed quarterly newsletters to every mailbox in the electorate – a total of **52,000 newsletters**
- ✓ sent **41** e-news updates to almost **4,000 recipients**
- ✓ launched a new and improved website
- ✓ engaged with an audience of **2,400** people on Facebook and Instagram

IN PARLIAMENT

- ✓ delivered **42** speeches in Parliament and asked **7** questions in Question Time
- ✓ served as the Deputy Opposition Whip
- ✓ served on the Economic and Finance Committee
- ✓ served on the E-cigarette Select Committee
- ✓ appointed as Shadow Cabinet Secretary

David

S P E I R S

MEMBER FOR BRIGHT

The electorate office is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday. The office is located on the corner of Sturt Road and Arundel Road, Brighton.

You can call the electorate office and speak to David or one of his staff on [\(08\) 8296 9833](tel:(08)82969833).

To email David, you can send your enquiry to bright@parliament.sa.gov.au

For more about David and regular updates visit: www.davidspeirs.com.au