

d a v i d

S P E I R S

2017 / 2018

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



I always thought that there was a chance my fourth annual report wouldn't happen. The 2018 state election campaign was a complex one, like no other in the state's history, and in politics it's important to realise that it is by the grace of my local electorate that I have this job.

A healthy fear of electoral defeat keeps politicians on their toes and while I was prepared for the worst, I was comforted by a belief that I had done all that I realistically could do to secure re-election.

John Howard famously said that when it comes to elections you can't fatten the pig on market day and that has certainly been my approach to serving as a local MP. Over four years I believe that I have worked to represent our local community with diligence, creativity, perseverance and good old fashioned hard work.

Through continual engagement with local people, I have sought to respond to the needs of our community and present a strong vision for the future of both our local area and the state more broadly. Big ideas such as the creation of Glenthorne National Park and a new approach to coastal protection have been complemented by local services and campaigns. The provision of quarterly seniors' forums, our youth cyber safety night with the Carly Ryan Foundation, our annual birthday party for 90 year olds, and connections with local sporting clubs, schools, service groups and churches are among the most satisfying parts of my job.

Being available, accessible and upfront in my dealings with constituents is central to my approach to serving in this role. During the past year we extended operating hours in the electorate office and reached out to local people through listening posts, door knocking and train station visits.

As it turns out my fears of defeat went unrealised. On election night I received the biggest swing towards a sitting Liberal MP in the state, an outcome which has left me humbled and committed to continuing the approach I have been pursuing.

While now holding the role of Minister for the Environment and Water in the new Marshall Liberal Government is a dream job for me, my local work in the electorate of Black remains at the heart of what I'm about.

My fourth annual report outlines the success we've achieved under each of my key priorities and an overview of what you can expect in the coming years. Thank you for the opportunity to continue this work.



DAVID SPEIRS MP
Minister for the Environment & Water
Member for Black



SEVEN PRIORITIES

When I ran for election, I worked with the community to develop six priorities which shaped 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.

When my electorate boundaries changed I added a seventh priority to recognise the large number of young families who now live in the electorate and the value they place on education and services for their children.





ONE



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

Over the past year we have been working on activities which build stronger, more resilient communities. Some of the things we have done are:

- hosted regular listening posts at local shopping centres where residents can meet me face to face and discuss issues of concern
- worked with Marion Council to address the concerns of residents in Hallett Cove Heights to increase amenity in the subdivision
- continued to work with local councils and the state government to drive forward the redevelopment of the Cement Hill site at Seacliff Park (a slow process, but we are getting close!)
- supported three Neighbourhood Watch groups and worked alongside Lions, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, surf and sporting clubs and residents' groups to help them deliver for our community
- committed funding to enhance the amenities at the Cove Sports and Community Club, Marino Hall and Hallett Cove Scouts
- hosted a Cyber Safety Forum with Sonya Ryan from the Carly Ryan Foundation, to help parents and carers gain a better understanding of the online dangers for children.

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:

- working with my Liberal Party colleagues to develop policies to support business including the abolition of payroll tax for small and medium sized businesses, reduction in land tax and capping of council rates
- sponsoring the Hallett Cove Business Association's first ever Local Business Awards
- updating my online Community Business Directory to help promote local businesses and provide residents with a way to find local shops and services operating within our community
- working alongside local business groups to help businesses come together to develop, network and learn
- hosting a business breakfast with Steven Marshall, the then Opposition Leader, to help local businesses understand what a Liberal Government will do to support small business.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

*An initiative of
David Speirs MP*

Find a
local business
near you



TWO





Priority 3: Roads that work for you

Ensuring our roads are safer, smoother and more efficient is important to me. Here's some of the work that I have done to improve our local road network:

- secured funding to fix the Oakland's Crossing – this was after many years of campaigning and through community support, with contributions across three levels of government, Nicolle Flint MP, Corey Wingard MP and myself
- campaigned to improve the condition and visual amenity of Brighton Road – an ongoing and long-term campaign
- committed to a feasibility study to fix Majors Road with the goals of investigating the implementation of an on/off ramp to the Southern Expressway, improving the surface of Majors Road and upgrading the Adams Road/Majors Road intersection
- secured funding to turn Candy Road/ South Road/Lander Road into a four-way intersection.

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

As a frequent user of public transport, I know how important it is to get it right. Our local network particularly has several issues that I have been working to address.

My work includes:

- frequently using public transport so I can stay in touch with the many issues facing my community on a daily basis
- delivering on our election commitment to have more train services more often and increasing the number of semi-express services available
- ensuring that our public transport stations and rail corridors are maintained and kept in order to improve the overall aesthetics of our public transport system
- reducing the price of 28 day Adelaide Metro passes
- supporting the state government's commitment for research into ticketing improvements, quiet carriages, mobile phone charging stations and more bicycle lockers
- announcing that public toilets at Hallett Cove, Brighton and Oakland stations will be opened to the public.





FIVE



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

One of the main reasons I live in this area is because of its natural beauty and diverse environment. Stretching from the coast and inland toward the hills it is unlike anywhere else in metropolitan Adelaide. That's why preserving and caring for this place is one of my priorities.

This year I have:

- been appointed Minister for the Environment and Water, putting me in charge of environmental and water policy in South Australia
- supported local environmental 'Friends' groups and council environmental initiatives
- initiated plans to create Glenthorne National Park – Adelaide's second metropolitan national park located in our southern suburbs. This will stretch from Happy Valley Reservoir to the coast at Hallett Cove and Marino

- promoted and supported Clean up Australia Day by arranging a community clean up of Hallett Cove Beach
- increased funding for sand replenishment on metropolitan beaches by \$500,000 per annum for two years.
- invested \$1 million over two years in research and development associated with sand retention to reduce reliance on pumping and carting in the longer term
- announced that the new government will invest \$2 million in wetland development and seagrass meadow restoration.

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

Our 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 ongoing commitment to seniors has included:

- hosting four seniors' forums attended by a total of 568 people on topics including:
 - > cyber safety: protecting yourself in a digital world
 - > your brain matters: dementia prevention
 - > keeping active in your senior years
 - > financial planning for your future
- driving a range of cost of living policies which will help those on a fixed income most. These include slashing the emergency services levy, capping council rates and putting downward pressure on electricity prices
- in partnership with Corey Wingard MP, hosting a party to celebrate those turning 90 across our electorates. This was attended by over 100 people
- personally delivering flowers and cards to 35 people in my electorate who turned 90 in 2017.





Priority 7: Giving our young people the best start in life

Our young people deserve the very best investment in their development and that's why I have a focus on supporting and improving the education system in our local community.

Some of the work I have done includes:

- delivering essential funding for new 'Kiss and Drop' zones for Woodend Primary School and Hallett Cove R-12 and extra parking at Sheidow Park Primary School
- hosting a Cyber Safety Forum with Sonya Ryan from the Carly Ryan Foundation, to help parents and carers gain a better understanding of the online dangers for children
- attending, presenting and sponsoring awards at the graduation ceremonies for many of the local schools in my electorate
- hosting several students during their work experience, giving them hands on experience of what it is like being a Member of Parliament.

ELECTION PLEDGES

Delivering real change for you

During the election campaign I made a number of key commitments for our community. These pledges mean a great deal to me and their fulfilment is critical to my success as your local representative.

While some will take longer to achieve than others, it is my goal to take all the necessary steps to deliver them. I want our community to hold me to account with these pledges and I have outlined them below:

Caring for our precious coast

The preservation and revitalisation of our coastline is a key goal for my time as Minister for the Environment and Water as well as your local Member. The key components of my approach include:

- a research and development fund to discover new ways to retain sand on our beaches
- a feasibility study into the development of a sea pool at Hallett Cove Beach
- investment in seagrass meadow restoration (seagrass is the glue that holds our coast together)
- funding to plan and develop wetlands to stop pollutants entering Gulf St Vincent
- construction of three artificial reefs to create habitat and boost tourism opportunities.





Hallett Cove
Conservation Park

Marino
Conservation Park

O'Halloran Hill
Recreation Park

Glenthorne
Farm

Happy Valley
Reservoir

Field River
Valley

Glenthorne National Park

Glenthorne National Park will be a new metropolitan national park, located in our southern suburbs. This proposal is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to preserve and revitalise a significant portion of existing open space and turn it into a thriving environmental and recreational precinct.

The national park will include: Glenthorne Farm, O'Halloran Hill Recreation Park, Marino Conservation Park, Hallett Cove Conservation Park, Happy Valley Reservoir and the Field River Valley. This is a total area of more than 1,500 hectares which is bigger than Belair National Park.

The critical component of the new national park is the 208 hectare Glenthorne Farm which will be brought into public ownership and made accessible for community recreation, while undergoing an environmental transformation with large scale revegetation establishing an incredible urban forest.

Opening up Happy Valley Reservoir for recreation

We will open up Happy Valley Reservoir and other reservoirs across the state for fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding and other light recreational activities.

Opening up Candy Road/Lander Road/South Road

We will turn the Candy Road/Lander Road/South Road intersection into a fully functioning four-way intersection. The upgrade will enable a right turn from Candy Road onto South Road and will allow people to head straight from Lander Road through to Candy Road.

Design and planning of an on/off ramp to the Southern Expressway at O'Halloran Hill

The Southern Expressway bypasses our community with no opportunities to get on or off. A priority of mine will be advancing an on/off ramp at Majors Road, beginning with planning and design works. This is a long term project.

Re-opening the Pine Avenue crossing

The previous Labor Government hastily removed the Pine Avenue crossing completely ignoring the wishes of our community. We have committed to reinstating the crossing, providing easier access to the beach, Seacliff Primary School and other community facilities for local residents.

Better parking at local schools

Parking at school pick up and drop off can be difficult at some local schools. We will develop new and/or expand 'Kiss and Drop' and safer walking and cycling routes zones at Hallett Cove R-12 School, Woodend Primary School and Sheidow Park Primary School.



Marino Community Hall

Built 65 years ago, Marino Community Hall is a much-loved and well used community hub, cared for by a band of loyal volunteers. We will provide a \$50,000 grant to undertake much needed upgrades to rejuvenate the hall.

Cove Sports and Community Club

We have committed a grant of \$88,000 to the Cove Sports and Community Club to allow them to undertake a much needed upgrade to transform its outdated kitchen facilities.

Hallett Cove Scouts

The Hallett Cove Scout group has seen a constant increase in its numbers in the past few years. Therefore to help facilitate further growth, we have committed a grant of \$20,000 to buy a new climbing wall for the Scouts.



I will be providing regular updates to the community on the progress of these commitments.

To see the statewide policies that the Liberal Party took to the election please visit www.strongplan.com.au.

REPORT CARD

IN THE COMMUNITY

- ✓ attended **289** community events
- ✓ hosted **4 seniors forums**
- ✓ raised over **\$836.45** for charitable causes across four seniors' forums
- ✓ hosted **9** tours of Parliament House
- ✓ assisted an average of **68 constituents each week** with their local and state issues
- ✓ sent **1,478** handwritten birthday and anniversary cards including hand delivering **35** of these to people turning 90 or celebrating significant wedding anniversaries

IN PARLIAMENT

- ✓ served as Shadow Minister for the Environment
- ✓ delivered **9** speeches in Parliament and asked **5** questions in Question Time
- ✓ promoted to the Minister for the Environment and Water

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- ✓ personally doorknocked over 4,000 households
- ✓ distributed quarterly newsletters to every mailbox in the electorate – a total of **52,000 newsletters**
- ✓ sent **43** e-news updates
- ✓ engaged with an audience of **6,172** people on Facebook and Instagram
- ✓ hosted **23** community events with local stakeholders including seniors, businesses, community groups, churches and schools
- ✓ hosted community listening posts every two months

david

S P E I R S

MEMBER FOR BLACK

Our electorate office is open between 8.30 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday. The office is located on the corner of Sturt Road and Arundel Road, Brighton.

You can contact the electorate office on [\(08\) 8296 9833](tel:0882969833).

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

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