

Hon Steven Marshall MP Premier

Thursday 12 March 2020

State Government welcomes Federal economic stimulus

The Marshall Liberal Government has welcomed the Federal Government's \$17.6 billion stimulus package, announced today, which will work in tandem with the state's immediate response to help cushion South Australia's economy and jobs from the ongoing impact of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Premier Steven Marshall said consumer confidence should be boosted by the twin packages, with tens of thousands of South Australians and local businesses set to directly benefit from the stimulus measures.

The State Government's unprecedented \$350 million package focuses on driving the economy and securing jobs through work-ready major infrastructure maintenance projects, including road and hospital upgrades as well as tourism infrastructure, complementing the suite of federally-funded initiatives, which include one-off \$750 cash payments for pensioners and other welfare recipients.

A \$1 billion federal fund has also been established to support sectors, regions and communities disproportionately affected by the economic impacts of the Coronavirus, including those heavily reliant on industries such as tourism, agriculture and education.

"We have acted swiftly and decisively to help safeguard South Australians from the economic impact of the simultaneous shocks of bushfires and Coronavirus, and we welcome the Federal Government's significant stimulus announced today," said Premier Marshall.

"Both packages will work hand in glove to deliver for South Australians in what are clearly challenging economic times, with many local businesses, industry and individuals set to benefit from the targeted response.

"My team will continue to work cooperatively with the Federal Government to ensure our communities don't just weather this storm but emerge stronger as a result."

The State Government has already announced a \$15 million investment in country hospital upgrades – including \$5m for regional aged care facilities - and will make further announcements in relation to other projects in coming days and weeks.