

# LABOR'S ILLAWARRA JOBS ACTION PLAN



Labor

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WOLLONGONG AND ITS SURROUNDS ARE A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, AND RAISE A FAMILY.

**Our global economic corridor cannot be limited to Sydney's CBD - it needs to be shared with regional New South Wales. Labor will spread our prosperity beyond Sydney's CBD to regions like the Illawarra.**

Labor's Illawarra Jobs Action Plan outlines Labor's approach to secure Wollongong's and the Illawarra's future, supporting and creating more local jobs for the long-term. It will strengthen our local economy through smart investment in important infrastructure.

The Illawarra is a major economic contributor to New South Wales and Australia delivering \$16.2 billion in economic output. It has a strong economic future as a major player in education services, manufacturing, tourism, information technology, health and human services.

Wollongong's tremendous economic potential is seen by:

- the University of Wollongong and TAFEs that have produced a highly skilled labour force
- traditional strengths in steel and mining
- the diversification of the Port of Port Kembla
- its tourism attributes - beaches, rainforests, Lake Illawarra and vibrant night economy that attract increasing number of visitors
- proximity to Sydney Airport and the fast growing suburbs of Sydney's South-West

But the Baird Liberal Government never backs the region's potential.

The Baird Government's decision to deny the region hundreds of jobs by building its train fleet overseas - with no local content required - demonstrates again the Liberal Government's neglect of the Illawarra.

**A Foley Labor Government will invest in the Illawarra's future to help create more jobs in the region - near to where people live.**

  
**LUKE FOLEY MP** NSW Labor Leader  
**RYAN PARK MP** Shadow Treasurer  
**PAUL SCULLY** Labor candidate for Wollongong  
**ANNA WATSON MP** Member for Shellharbour

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# LABOR'S SECURE & SUSTAINABLE STEEL JOBS PLAN

Only Labor understands that steel is as much a part of the Illawarra's future as it has been its history.

The NSW State Government has a crucial role to play in the future of our steel and manufacturing industries.

As part of Labor's Secure and Sustainable Steel Jobs Plan, a State Labor Government will ensure that all public infrastructure projects will be required to use a minimum 90% Australian made steel that meets Australian standards and certification.

The facts speak for themselves: for every \$1 million of local manufacturing output gained or retained here in NSW;

- 6 full-time jobs are retained,
- \$22,300 of tax revenue is generated and,
- \$64,900 worth of welfare benefits are saved.

The threat of closing the steel industry in the Illawarra in 2015 would have cost up to 10,000 jobs and wiped out \$3 billion of value from the region's economy.

Our commitment to building infrastructure right across the state will provide continued significant economic benefit to the Illawarra region.

Additionally we will establish a NSW Steel Industry Advocate to be based in the Illawarra to ensure steel standards are complied with and amend the State's procurement policy to assess 'whole of life' calculations for public infrastructure, including cost of transport; insurance; assembly; maintenance costs; environmental impacts; supply chain activity; employment; and regional development objectives.



Only Labor will give priority to assessing the long life of Australian-made steel use in infrastructure projects rather than just focusing on price.

A Foley Labor Government will use the region's steel industry as a strong foundation for future economic growth for the Illawarra.

Continuing to support the production of steel in the Illawarra allows the industry to pursue new product markets such as in renewable energy which will help support our efforts to address the impact of climate change.

**NSW LABOR HAS PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN SECURING PASSAGE OF THE STEEL INDUSTRY PROTECTION BILL 2016 THROUGH THE NSW PARLIAMENT'S LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. WE WILL USE 90% OF AUSTRALIA-MADE STEEL IN ALL MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS ACROSS NSW, AND ESTABLISH A NSW STEEL INDUSTRY ADVOCATE TO BE LOCATED IN THE ILLAWARRA.**

# FROM PORT TO (AIR) PORT

## CONNECTING THE ILLAWARRA TO SOUTH WEST SYDNEY GROWTH CENTRES

The Illawarra stands poised to benefit from the coming decades of regional growth of South-west Sydney and Western Sydney – the third largest economy in Australia and home to 1.2 million people.

The Greater Macarthur Land Release that was announced last year will see 100,000 extra people living south of Campbelltown over the next couple of decades.

There are already important linkages between the economies and populations of the Illawarra and Sydney's southwestern suburbs. These will grow as the Macarthur region's growth accelerates.

Already residents of Sydney's South-west look to the Illawarra for education services, recreation and port facilities and services. Many people from the Illawarra regularly travel to the Macarthur region for work and business.

Improved transport infrastructure will ensure that the Illawarra also benefits from the construction of the new Western Sydney Airport at Badgerys Creek.

Only Labor will set the Illawarra economy up for the future by strengthening the transport connections between Wollongong and the growth centres of South-west Sydney by focusing on:



**1. Upgrading Appin Road** - a key freight corridor and commuter route for Illawarra-based residents traveling to work in Campbelltown and Sydney's South-west.

**2. Supporting construction of the Maldon-Dombarton rail link** - a joint public-private partnership that will connect the South-west with Port Kembla and remove freight from the existing South Coast line increasing potential for faster commuter services between Wollongong and Sydney.

These vital transport infrastructure upgrades will improve the flow of people and business between the Illawarra and the growing region of South-west Sydney delivering local jobs now and into the future.

**A FOLEY GOVERNMENT WILL COMMIT \$50 MILLION TO UPGRADE APPIN ROAD AND \$50 MILLION TOWARDS FOUNDATION CAPITAL TO WORK WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO CONSTRUCT THE MALDON-DOBARTON RAIL LINK.**



# UPGRADE THE WIN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Tourism is already a major economic driver for the region with domestic and international visitors supporting thousands of jobs in hotels, motels, restaurants and hospitality.

In March 2016 Tourism NSW reported that domestic and international visitors to the region spent an estimated \$420 million locally.

An upgraded WIN Entertainment to include Convention facilities will be a game changer for Wollongong. It will help create more jobs in what is termed, the MICE sector - Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Events. It will also help to encourage more people to make return visits to the Illawarra following on from a conference experience.

Delivering more than 280 jobs for the region an upgraded WIN Entertainment and Convention Centre will create an additional \$12 million in regional economic benefit and attract close to 40,000 visitors to the city every year.

The existing WIN Entertainment Centre currently employs 270 people. It is estimated up to 287 additional on-going jobs will be created across a range of hospitality and events business.

The economic benefits will be felt in accommodation, hospitality, transport and retail sectors.

An upgraded Entertainment and Convention Centre will be a centrepiece of the Illawarra fostering our tourism offerings as the



second largest convention centre in New South Wales, and further supporting the Illawarra's growth as a major regional tourism destination for both domestic and international visitors.

**ONLY LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL COMMIT THE \$50 MILLION NEEDED TO DELIVER THIS UPGRADE. LABOR WILL BOOST LOCAL TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES THAT SUPPORT JOBS AND INVESTMENT IN THE REGION.**

**WIN STADIUM HAS HOSTED 1.9 MILLION PATRONS.**

**LABOR BUILT THE WOLLONGONG ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE WITH A GRANT OF \$18.5 MILLION.**

**IT OFFICIALLY OPENED IN SEPTEMBER 1998.**

**HOSTED 3 MILLION PATRONS.**

# UPGRADE THE MT KEIRA SUMMIT PARK

Ensuring the Illawarra's ongoing future as a major tourism centre is Labor's commitment.

The Mt Keira Summit Park has been a popular destination for residents and visitors.

As a unique place of cultural, environmental and social significance for the region, the Mt Keira Summit Park is a driver of local jobs and activity in the tourism industry.

Labor will provide funding support to the Wollongong City Council to upgrade the Mt Keira Summit Park.

**A FOLEY LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL COMMIT \$5 MILLION TO WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL TO UPGRADE THE MT KEIRA SUMMIT PARK.**





# BUILD A NEW MASTERS & SPRINGHILL ROAD INTERCHANGE

As part of Labor's plan to connect the Illawarra to south-west Sydney, it will commit to the construction of a new Masters & Springhill Roads Interchange.

Thousands of vehicles use Masters and Springhill Roads every day as workers travel to work in the Wollongong CBD, access the Port of Port Kembla, BlueScope Steel and leave for home at the end of the day.

One of the growing frustrations of motorists using these key roads is the congestion in the morning and afternoon peak periods due to the existing intersection.

Masters and Springhill Roads are also the site of many car and heavy vehicle accidents.

In November 2013, Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) established new red light cameras at the intersection. In 2015 alone, these red light cameras were among the highest revenue collectors for the Government in the Illawarra amounting to \$417,490 in infringement penalties for motorists.

A Foley Labor Government will build a new Masters & Springhill Road Interchange eliminating the current intersection ensuring a free continuous flow of traffic movement throughout the day.

**ONLY LABOR WILL INVEST \$40 MILLION TO BUILD A NEW MASTERS & SPRINGHILL ROADS INTERCHANGE IMPROVING ACCESS TO WOLLONGONG CBD, THE PORT OF PORT KEMBLA, BLUESCOPE STEEL AND WOLLONGONG'S SOUTHERN SUBURBS.**

# MOVING LIQUOR & GAMING NSW TO WOLLONGONG

Labor will move Liquor and Gaming NSW to Wollongong. Liquor and Gaming NSW is the public sector agency responsible for the regulation of liquor, gaming & wagering, casinos and clubs.

This will involve the relocation of more than 200 jobs from the Sydney CBD to Wollongong.

While the public sector will not create all the jobs Wollongong needs, the relocation of public sector jobs can be an important catalyst for private sector investment.

Diversifying the economic base of Wollongong will also strengthen the city's commercial core and support the ongoing transformation and upgrade of the city centre.

The relocation of Liquor and Gaming NSW will be undertaken during a first term of a Foley Labor Government.

**RE LOCATING LIQUOR & GAMING NSW TO WOLLONGONG BUILDS ON LABOR'S EXTENSIVE RECORD OF PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT IN THE ILLAWARRA.**



# GREEN JOBS INITIATIVE

The previous Labor Government funded and initiated the Green Jobs Illawarra project that was designed to look at employment opportunities through sustainable industries including retrofitting of existing buildings, creating affordable housing with high energy and water efficiency elements and to provide training opportunities in sustainable workplace practices.

Unfortunately, the NSW Liberal Government failed to support this initiative.

We will ensure that there are long term employment opportunities identified through sustainable industry practices and that Government plays an active role through departments such as TAFE, Housing NSW, Industry and the Office of Environment and Heritage to support this initiative and grow local jobs whilst at the same time helping to reduce the environmental impact we have on our local community .

**A FUTURE FOLEY LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL ONCE AGAIN LEAD THE WAY BY WORKING WITH INDUSTRY, LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS AND THE COMMUNITY TO DEVELOP THE GREEN JOBS ILLAWARRA PROJECT.**

# ESTABLISHING THE IMAKE MAKER SPACE ON THE UOW INNOVATION CAMPUS

Wollongong is already building a reputation as a hub for innovation in New South Wales.

The University of Wollongong's Innovation Campus has become a focus point for Wollongong's role in the new economy and for some time has been lobbying for funding for a new prototype space (Maker Space) to provide small and medium enterprises, both existing businesses and new ones, with access to the technology and expertise that they need to develop and test their ideas.

As an addition to the Wollongong Science Centre it would also provide space for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) education and training activities for school aged children and their teachers.

The iMake Maker Space will provide technologies such as 3D printers, design software, laser cutters that would ordinarily be out of reach of small and medium sized enterprises available to those businesses on a pay-for-use basis. This helps to reduce the barriers to access to technology that small and medium businesses face when they are trying to develop a new idea to support existing jobs or create new ones.

While the Illawarra's economy has been shifting towards services, manufacturing remains an important foundation. The nature of manufacturing has and will continue to change. Specialised, advanced manufacturing incorporating on-going service of



produced goods, including research and design is becoming the way of the future for this crucial sector.

iMake will also provide an avenue where small and medium sized businesses can gain access to the right researchers and research at UOW and provide new entrants into the iAccelerate start-up incubator.

Labor's support for the iMake Maker Space comes as part of its commitment to utilising the emerging technologies of the 'sharing economy'.

Businesses like Airbnb can contribute to the regional economies by enticing visitors to visit areas outside traditional tourist hotspots benefiting homeowners, local businesses and tourists.

Initiatives like the iMake Maker Space will allow the Illawarra to play its part in the new economy.

**A FOLEY LABOR GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE \$5 MILLION TO BUILD A MAKER SPACE ON THE UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG'S INNOVATION CAMPUS TO PROVIDE THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE RESEARCH AND DESIGN WORK NEEDED TO DELIVER NEW TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS AND BUSINESS MODELS.**

# A PLACE FOR THE ILLAWARRA IN GOVERNMENT

The future of the Illawarra will be a focus for the Foley Labor Government.

Ryan Park, Member for Keira, will be the Treasurer and Minister for the Illawarra in a Foley Government. This will put Wollongong at the centre of government decision making.

It will be a stark contrast to the Baird government which has abolished the position of Minister for the Illawarra - emphasizing the low regard the government has for the region.

The Liberals abolished it but Labor will reinstate it.

Labor's ongoing commitment to the region will also include;

- **A State of the Region Address** - a major policy speech will be delivered each term by the Premier on the economic future of the region.
- **An Illawarra Cabinet meeting** - Labor will regularly hold cabinet meetings outside of the Sydney CBD. This will keep the Government informed about perspectives from outside of the Sydney CBD and ensure it is governing for all the communities of NSW.



# MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES BY INVESTING IN EDUCATION

## SCHOOLS

Educational services are central to the development and realisation of every individual's full human potential. The fostering of a lifelong curiosity and love of learning are important, as is equipping an individual with the skills they need to get a job and build a career in an increasingly competitive global economy and society.

The OECD says that the “quality of schooling in a country is a powerful predictor of the wealth that countries will produce in the long run.”

The Illawarra has some great schools, with dedicated teachers and enthusiastic school communities, but the Baird Government is letting them down by neglecting basic maintenance.

Documents obtained under Freedom of Information reveal that many local schools are struggling with a heavy maintenance backlog. There are eight local schools all with a maintenance bill of more than \$1 million.

Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts has the third largest maintenance bill in NSW, with repairs of \$2.36 million outstanding. Then comes Smiths Hills High (\$2.15 million), Oak Flats High (\$1.84 million) and Bulli High (\$1.71 million).

In total, the 10 most rundown schools in the Illawarra have a combined backlog bill of \$15.1 million.

Local schools need to be properly maintained to ensure the best possible learning environment for our kids.



## LIST OF ILLAWARRA SCHOOLS WITH THE WORST MAINTENANCE BACKLOG

	SCHOOL	MAINTENANCE BACKLOG (\$)
1	Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts	2,368,180
2	Smiths Hills High	2,151,312
3	Oak Flats High	1,849,346
4	Bulli High	1,710,563
5	Shoalhaven High	1,457,625
6	Corrimal High	1,304,654
7	Keira High	1,221,535
8	Figtree High	1,165,944
9	Nowra East Public	991,374
10	Warrawong Public	938,152

As at 30 June 2015

## TAFE

The Baird Government is making it even harder for people to get the skills they need to get a job —and it's not just the young. With an ageing population, governments have an obligation to give people a chance to find a new career.

We should be equipping people - young and old - with the skills they need to respond to a dynamic and changing economy.

The Baird Government has forgotten the training system was created to train people and it doesn't believe in TAFE. It is running down TAFE by sacking teachers, cutting courses and increasing fees.

Already the Dapto TAFE has been closed and there are serious concerns about the future of the West Wollongong campus.

Across NSW there are a staggering 126,000 fewer students than there were in 2012. There are 14,500 fewer students with disabilities and 5,000 fewer teachers and support staff.

The Baird Government has shifted funding from TAFE to private providers but many of these private providers acted unscrupulously in their dealings with students.

To address the crisis Labor will:

- Guarantee at least 70 per cent of public funding for vocational education and training to the TAFE Commission.
- Establish a Private Providers Investigations Unit to investigate dodgy training providers and clean up the sector.



**REMINDER**

# STATE BY-ELECTION 12 NOVEMBER

**VOTING IS COMPULSORY, DON'T RISK A FINE!**



**VOTE 1** Paul  
**Scully**

*A fresh start for Wollongong*

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