



**A STRONG PLAN
FOR REAL CHANGE.**

MEDIA RELEASE

Peter Treloar MP

Member for Flinders

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DCSI volunteer screening fees to be abolished

Volunteers will benefit from a policy to abolish fees for Department of Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI) screening, under a Marshall Liberal Government.

The State Liberals will also address the excessive delays and wait times that have plagued the DCSI screening process under the Weatherill Labor Government.

Member for Flinders Peter Treloar said volunteers were the backbone of the Eyre Peninsula and abolishing DCSI screening fees for volunteers would be recognition of their community service.

"Volunteers play an important role across the EP and it is important we lower costs to encourage more people to put their hand up to volunteer," Mr Treloar said.

"In regional South Australia, almost 60 per cent of the population volunteer, with about 1.76 million volunteer hours worked across the State every week.

"The cost of volunteer screening and extensive waiting times are issues that are continually raised with me, with South Australia having the highest DCSI volunteer screening fee in Australia at \$58.30.

"That's why we will abolish fees that volunteers have to pay for DCSI screening, and work to address waiting times for these checks."

State Liberal Leader Steven Marshall said being a volunteer should be a source of pride, not a financial burden, and more South Australians should be encouraged to get involved.

"We need to screen volunteers to protect children, people with a disability and the elderly but those checks shouldn't become a deterrent for genuine volunteers," Mr Marshall said.

"We will also extend the *We Do* app, a database and rewards program for volunteers which also links them with volunteer opportunities.

"As part of this extension, the contribution of employers who support and provide people time off work to volunteer will be recognised."