

## **Hon Tim Whetstone MP**

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

## **Peter Treloar MP**

Member for Flinders

Thursday 9 May 2019

### **\$10,000 for community shelters out West**

Open community space at Fowlers Bay and Penong are set to be transformed, thanks to the Marshall Liberal Government's recent funding announcement.

The Outback Communities Authority (OCA) has been offered \$50,010 from the Regional Growth Fund to upgrade tourist access to Parachilna, Yunta, Beltana, Glendambo, Iron Knob, Fowlers Bay and Penong – with \$10,000 going to Fowlers Bay and Penong.

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Tim Whetstone said the upgrades would lift the quality of the amenities on offer, drawing greater economic opportunities to the towns.

"These upgrades will offer better facilities for tourists and the community including new shelters, shade areas, table and chairs, landscaping, interpretive signage, painting of campgrounds, hall renovations, playgrounds and a development of a tourist hub at Beltana," Minister Whetstone said.

"It's important that when tourists and visitors stop for a break, they have appropriate facilities available as they tour through our outback regions.

"This infrastructure upgrade will ultimately lead to an increase in visitor numbers to outback South Australia, which is a positive for the regional wellbeing."

The construction work will be carried out by local volunteers, local contractors and Remote Jobs in Communities Program (RJCP) participants.

Member for Flinders Peter Treloar said improved community facilities at Fowlers Bay and Penong were important to attract more visitors to regional South Australia.

"I commend the Penong Progress Association for working with the Outback Communities Authority to secure \$10,000 funding to establish a shaded shelter and seating for the community park, as stage three of the skate park project," Mr Treloar said.

"The Fowlers Bay Progress Association have demonstrated vision in obtaining a total of \$10,000 to locate two small shelters for the picnic area near the jetty.

"The Marshall Liberal Government's investment in the region's tourist facilities illustrates our genuine commitment to small remote communities.

"The \$150 million Regional Growth Fund is delivering jobs, improved facilities and new opportunities for people right across South Australia."

Outback Communities Authority Chair Cecilia Woolford said she was grateful for the support from the State Government.

“Thanks to the Regional Growth Fund, our communities will be able to provide high quality facilities for the travelling public,” Ms Woolford said.

“This will help to enhance the visitor economy that creates and keeps jobs in outback communities, essential for community sustainability.”

The Regional Growth Fund has been established to unlock new economic activity in the regions, to deliver critical economic infrastructure that creates direct benefit across regional industries, and to strengthen regional communities.