

Let's keep building South Australia -- Labor's policy plan

February 2014

On 15 February 2014, South Australian Premier the Hon Jay Weatherill MP unveiled Labor's policy plan for the upcoming state election, *Let's keep building South Australia*. The plan outlines Labor's policy over a range of areas, including jobs, transport, infrastructure and community safety.

This brief provides a summary of the ALP's policy platform as outlined in *Let's keep building South Australia*. Much of the plan builds on policies announced by the Labor Government over the past six months through its *Building a stronger South Australia* platform.

The full election policy plan is available in pdf format [here](#).

Labor's interactive election policy website is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton South Australian Election Brief is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on forthcoming elections is available [here](#).

Jobs and business

On 21 January 2014 Premier Weatherill released *Our Jobs Plan*, the State Government's response to the end of auto-manufacturing in Australia by 2017. The State Government committed \$60 million over four years towards fourteen initiatives within the Plan to assist South Australian workers and industry. These include:

- new training and support for workers;
- Regional Community Building Initiatives;
- restructuring of the South Australian Automotive Industry;
- government assistance for firms to accelerate to advanced manufacturing;
- plans for creating new jobs; and
- government acceleration of planned infrastructure projects.

South Australian Labor has also announced a \$120 million Jobs and Skills strategy, which includes \$12 million of new funds. The strategy aims to reach more than 40 000 South Australians over the next three years to provide more job opportunities, more training and skills development and support for workers to retrain for jobs in new industries.

The Jobs and Skills strategy is available [here](#).

In *Let's keep building South Australia*, South Australian Labor builds on this jobs plan with policies to assist businesses, including:

- encouraging skilled migration;
- cheaper WorkCover premiums;
- payroll tax relief;
- more opportunities to win government work;
- support to innovate and diversify;
- microfinance for entrepreneurs; and
- an entrepreneur on South Australia's Economic Development Board.

The full jobs and business policy platform is available [here](#).

More information on Labor policies for business is available in the Hawker Britton South Australia Election Brief available [here](#).

Transport infrastructure

South Australian Labor has guaranteed to oppose any new toll roads. The Government has upgraded the South Road and Port Expressway, built the Northern Expressway and is currently duplicating the Southern Expressway. These infrastructure upgrades have been achieved without charging tolls.

Labor's transport policy is available here. In broad terms, it proposes:

- increased public transport, including extension of the O-Bahn, Electrification of the Gawler rail line and more 'Park n' Rides';
- measures to reduce fare evasion and rewards for frequent commuters;
- improved metropolitan and regional roads, including a non-stop North-South corridor;
- improved road safety, through improvements to black spots and a Resident's Win program for local road safety projects; and
- extension of city cycling networks.

The full transport policy is available [here](#).

On 21 October 2013 the Premier unveiled the *Integrated Transport and Land Use Plan*, a detailed blueprint for South Australia's transport future. The plan will guide private, State, Federal and local government investment in South Australia's transport and land use planning system for the next 30 years. The Plan proposes a host of changes to improve trains, roads, trams, buses, harbours, airports and transportation infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians.

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on the plan is available [here](#).

The *Integrated Transport and Land Use Plan* policy document is available [here](#).

Healthcare

Labor has committed to increasing healthcare investment, and ruled out any cuts to the State's overall budget for healthcare. At the same time, Labor proposes to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of South Australian healthcare system. Key policies include:

- a new Women's and Children's Hospital, and continued investment in new hospital infrastructure, new advanced medical equipment and the implementation of an Elective Surgery Strategy to keep waiting times low;
- improved ambulance services and an expanded role for highly-qualified paramedics;
- Expanded care in the home and community through a Health@Home strategy, new nurse practitioners, Anaphylaxis and men's health strategies and a Community Guardian Scheme;
- mental illness policies, including the establishment of a Mental Health Commission, a five-year plan for mental health and awareness programs; and
- improved rural healthcare services, including expansion of the Patient Assistance Transport Scheme, additional dialysis services in country South Australia and the creation of more health jobs in regional communities.

Labor's full healthcare policy is available [here](#).

Community Safety

Crime in South Australia has decreased by nearly 40 per cent since the Labor Government was elected in 2002: 83 000 fewer crimes are committed per year and 220 fewer crimes are committed every day. Adelaide now has the lowest crime rate of all capital cities in Australia. Labor plans to build on this improvement if elected through:

- measures to protect the community from serious offenders, including tougher sentencing, more GPS tracking units and preventing offenders from changing their names;
- greater restrictions on child sex offenders, and audits on all staff and volunteers who work with children in public schools and the implementation of a multi-agency response to individual cases of child protection and domestic violence;
- new powers for police and new offences to tackle gun crime;
- new CCTV cameras and improved surveillance;
- greater compensation for victims of crime;
- an intervention program for young offenders; and
- additional police officers and improved police equipment and technology.

The full community safety policy is available [here](#).

Regional development

Ahead of the election, Labor has announced two key policies for regional development, A Vibrant Adelaide (available [here](#)) and Regional SA (available [here](#)) as part of its *Let's keep building South Australia* policy plan.

The Government has also released a 2013-14 Major Developments Directory (MDD), which showcases 313 projects underway or planned with a total value of more than \$100 billion. The MDD is a compilation of projects each valued at over \$5 million, including 70 new projects with more than \$13 billion in new capital expenditure.

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on the Major Developments Directory is available [here](#).

Other policy areas

SA Labor has also released policies on a range of other areas including;

- Affordable Living (available [here](#));
- The Environment (available [here](#));
- Strong Communities (available [here](#)); and

Further reading

The full *Let's keep building South Australia* policy plan is available [here](#).

Labor's election policy website is available [here](#).

The Hawker Britton South Australian Election Brief is available [here](#).