

## WHAT THE 2017 BUDGET MEANS FOR HINKLER:

- We are reinstating the **Pensioner Concession Card** for 92,000 older Australians impacted by the January asset test change (including Department of Veterans Affairs recipients) to allow continued access to discounts offered by the States and Territories.
- \$1,295,500 for **five road black spots in Hinkler** – three in Bundaberg and two in Hervey Bay.
- \$150,000 for a third round of the **Stronger Communities Program** in 2017-18.
- **Queensland** is estimated to receive **\$465.3 million** under the **Financial Assistance Grant program** which includes the payment brought forward into 2016-17. Individual council allocations will be finalised early in the 2017-18 financial year.
- Federal Government **funding for schools** in Hinkler to **increase by \$324 million** over the next 10 years, benefiting the 54 primary and secondary schools in the electorate, and their **23,497 students**.
- We will continue to provide record funding for health and Medicare, and guarantee Medicare's future with a dedicated fund which will protect these vital services for this generation and the next. Last financial year there were **903,958 GP services** in the electorate bulk billed. **GP Bulk Billing rates** in Hinkler were at **88.5%** last financial year.
- The Government, in partnership with Medicines Australia will reduce the costs of medicines by **\$1.8 billion** over the next five years.
- All past and current service personnel who have undertaken at least one-day full time service will benefit from easier access to free mental health support and services. Enhanced access to counselling from the Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service will benefit partners and dependents of contemporary veterans. This includes the **2,200 veterans and their families** living in Hinkler.
- All DVA Clients - **4,119 DVA clients** in the electorate of Hinkler - will benefit from the investment in this year's budget to modernise DVA's ICT system to provide easier access to DVA services and improve processing times for claims.
- **NDIS** is fully funded and once fully rolled out will directly help an estimated **5,285 people** in the electorate of Hinkler.
- The **\$20,000 Instant Asset Write-Off** for local small businesses will be extended with **11,068 small businesses** in Hinkler that can take advantage of this measure.
- We are delivering Small and Medium Business Tax cuts which will help the **11,510 businesses** – with turnovers up to \$50 million if they are incorporated, and up to \$5 million if they are unincorporated, in Hinkler invest and employ more Australians.
- We are creating a fund to help train Australian Apprentices in key trades and skills to get more young Australians into work and help Australian businesses to grow. This

extra investment will help the approximately **2,600 local young Australians** aged 15-24 looking for job or looking for more work in Hinkler.

- Through reforms that recently passed through the Parliament, we are making child care more accessible and affordable for the **6,790 families** in Hinkler using child care-providing the greatest level of assistance for those that need it most.
- We are also ensuring that more than 1,784 children in Hinkler can access 15 hours of preschool a week under a new agreement for early childhood education, with an additional \$2.2 million in funding for Hinkler.
- The Government is providing a **one-off Energy Assistance Payment** this year of \$75 for single recipients and \$125 per couple for those eligible for qualifying payments on 20 June 2017 and who are resident in Australia. Qualifying payments include the Age Pension, Disability Support Pension, Parenting Payment Single, and a range of veterans' payments. This will assist more than **38,400 people** in the electorate of Hinkler.
- The **Regional Growth Fund** includes \$272.2 million to provide grants of \$10 million or more for major transformational projects which support long term economic growth and create jobs in Australia's regions.
- **\$200 million** to extend the **Building Better Regions Fund** for four years from 2017-18 - Infrastructure Projects Stream and the Community Investment Stream.
- Establish a Regional Investment Corporation (RIC) to streamline the delivery of up to \$4 billion in concessional loans and administer the Government's \$2 billion farm business concessional loans from 2018-19, as well as the \$2 billion National Water Infrastructure Loan Facility.
- The **Seasonal Work Incentives for Job Seekers** trial forms part of the Australian Government response to concerns about the inability of the Australian horticulture industry to attract sufficient numbers of seasonal workers, and the impact of this on industry and opportunities for job seekers. The incentives will be available from 1 July 2017 for two years. Newstart and Youth Allowance recipients who have been receiving those payments for at least three months will be eligible to participate in the trial, which will be capped at 7,600 participants over the two years.