

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 20 June 2017

BUDGET BOOST FOR THE ILLAWARRA AND SOUTH COAST

The Illawarra and South Coast communities will benefit from the 2017-18 Budget through more investment in health infrastructure, road upgrades and school upgrades.

“Our local communities recognise that this kind of investment in our regions doesn’t happen easily. It takes discipline and hard work to make sure our budget is in such a position that everyone right across NSW can share in the benefits, and that is exactly what this budget delivers,” the Member for Kiama Gareth Ward said.

“As a part of this Budget, I am pleased to announce funding for the Berry to Bomaderry Princes Highway upgrade, a project of huge importance for our local area and part of the reason I became a Member of Parliament. I can also announce pre-construction will commence on the Albion Park Railway Bypass – with investment like this in our region it’s not hard to see why our local communities are growing.”

“This is a budget delivering for our local community, with Shoalhaven Hospital Car Park set to get its upgrade. We are also investing in our roads, and I support and share the Parliamentary Secretary’s excitement that the Berry to Bomaderry Princes Highway Upgrade will be delivered as a part of this Budget. This is a Government that continues to ensure our regional areas share in the benefits of our tough fiscal management,” the Member for South Coast Shelley Hancock said.

Key highlights from the 2017-18 Budget include:

- **\$137 million** in 2017-18 for upgrades to the Princes Highway, including **\$35.5 million** to complete the Foxground and Berry bypass and **\$19 million** to start building the upgrade between Berry and Bomaderry
- **\$20 million** to complete replacement Princes Highway Bridge at Burrill Lake
- **\$17.3 million** in 2017-18 for planning and preconstruction for the Princes Motorway bypass of Albion Park Rail
- **\$253 million** to continue delivery of 512 new intercity train carriages as part of the **\$2.3 billion** project to replace the trains carrying customers between Sydney and the Central Coast, Newcastle, the Blue Mountains and the South Coast
- **\$86.8 million** in 2017-18 of a **\$164 million** project to deliver an additional 360 beds at the South Coast Correctional Centre (Nowra).
- **\$250.6 million** for the Shellharbour Hospital Redevelopment
- **\$9.8 million** for the Shoalhaven Hospital Car Park to improve car parking facilities
- **\$21 million** in 2017-18 to continue the Bulli Hospital Aged Care Centre of Excellence
- **\$3.2 million** for marine and coastal infrastructure works in Wollongong
- **\$5.0 million** in 2017-18 to build the Bay & Basin Police Station