MAINTENANCE FOR GOSTWYCK BRIDGE

George Souris, M.P., Member for Upper Hunter, said the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) is planning to carry out major maintenance to the Gostwyck Bridge on Dungog Road near Martins Creek from next month. RMS has provided $1.7 million to repair and repaint the bridge spanning Paterson River.

“The Gostwyck Bridge was built in 1928 and has contributed significantly to the social and commercial development of Dungog for more than 80 years,” Mr Souris said.

“The work will reduce ongoing maintenance costs and the possibility of bridge closures in the next 10 years.

“RMS is planning to start maintenance in late January 2012, with completion scheduled for February 2013, weather permitting.

“The first stage of maintenance includes replacing the timber approaches and the second stage involves repairs and a full repaint of the steel truss bridge.

“The maintenance will involve several weekend bridge closures and motorists should allow extra travel time while work is being carried out.

“The community and motorists will be advised of planned closures in advance and detours will be available on Horns Crossing and Martins Creek roads.

“A temporary support bridge will be installed on the Vacy Bridge as part of the detour route while work is carried out,” Mr Souris said.

A letter detailing the scheduled maintenance and expected traffic impacts will be distributed to local residents and will be available to view at www.rms.nsw.gov.au