

Media ReleaseThe Hon Greg Hunt MP

Federal Member for Flinders Minister for the Environment

Wednesday, 19th November 2014

Flinders councils to share in \$9.865million through local government grants

I am pleased that we are able to provide greater assistance to local councils though the Government's Financial Assistance Grant programme.

Residents across the Mornington Peninsula, Bass Coast, Cardinia and Casey councils will benefit from the \$9.65 million in Financial Assistance Grants for the Flinders electorate.

Councils will be able to spend this untied grant funding according to local priorities – whether it be for infrastructure, health, recreation, environment, employment or roads.

This gives local councils greater flexibility about where they spend their funding and provides an additional boost to make our communities better places to live, work and enjoy.

The Australian Government is providing \$2.3 billion in quarterly payments to local councils nationwide in 2014-15, with \$9.865 million going to councils in the Flinders electorate each quarter this year, including:

• Bass Coast Shire Council: \$1.394 million

- Cardinia Shire Council:\$2.445 million
- Casey City Council: \$4.387 million
- Mornington Peninsula Shire Council: \$1.640 million

I am looking forward to seeing our councils target local priorities with this funding, which is in addition to funding provided under the \$565 million Black Spot and \$2.1 billion Roads to Recovery programmes.

Details of the allocations to councils under the Financial Assistance Grants Programme are available online at: http://www.regional.gov.au/local/assistance/index.aspx.

The first quarterly payment for 2014-15 was made to councils in August 2014.