

## Media Release The Hon Greg Hunt MP

Federal Member for Flinders Minister for the Environment

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015

## Beach Safety Equipment Fund supports Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club

I am delighted to announce that Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club will receive a \$25,000 boost in funding thanks to the Australian Government's Beach Safety Equipment Fund.

The additional funding will ensure Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Clubs can continue its great work.

It will allow the Club to purchase vital lifesaving and first aid equipment such as inflatable rescue boats, rescue boards, defibrillators and oxygen resuscitators.

The Beach Safety Equipment Fund will provide Australian surf lifesaving clubs with an additional \$1.6 million per year over the next five years to purchase vital safety equipment.

This means each of the nation's 310 surf lifesaving clubs will be entitled to \$5000 per year across the terms of the agreement.

The Australian Government has also introduced the Beach Drowning Black Spot Reduction Programme to educate the public about coastal hazards and reduce drowning at dangerous beaches.

Lifesavers do a terrific job in our community and have kept our beaches and coastline safe for more than 100 years.

Lifesavers provide a vital community service that is very much appreciated and valued. Last year lifesavers performed 12,000 rescues and provided 32,000 first aid treatments to beachgoers across Australia.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Woolamai Beach Surf Life Saving Club for its dedication to protecting residents and visitors on our local beaches and coastlines.

The Australian Government is dedicated to reducing drowning deaths and supporting the fantastic work our lifesavers do to keep our beaches safe.