

You will be a priority: Marshall

REGIONAL South Australians can bank on a “rolled gold” promise by the State Opposition to make them a higher priority if elected to government next year, according to Opposition Leader Steven Marshall.

Mr Marshall was in Murray Bridge on Monday to speak to local leaders and business owners and said regional communities could expect to see greater investment in infrastructure from a State Liberal Government.

He stopped short of making any specific commitments, saying the party had decided to hold back major announcements until after the Federal Election, but said his party would aim for a less Adelaide-centric approach than the current government.

“We shouldn’t be run-

ning a deficit year to year but we do need to make investments in productive infrastructure,” he said.

Mr Marshall likened the State’s tight budgetary situation to a business owner taking out a

loan to fund improve-

ments. “You don’t want to be making a loss but you are happy to take out a loan for new plants and equipment or capital investment,” he said.

He pointed to agriculture, horticulture, tourism, health and roads as areas in which rural and regional South Australians could expect to see greater activity.

Mr Marshall and Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick were scathing of the State Government’s record in regional South Australia, saying it had focussed on pet projects

in Adelaide at the expense of regional communities.

Mr Marshall and Mr Pederick spent the rest of the day hearing about the Murray Bridge council’s long term plans for the region as well as Thomas Foods International’s expansion plans.

They also spoke with Swanport Harvest owner Don Ruggiero about the conditions presently affecting his business.



Going country: Beauchamps Shoe Store owner John Beauchamp chats with Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick and State Opposition Leader Steven Marshall at Murray Bridge on Monday.