



MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Pederick MP JP

Member for Hammond
Parliamentary Secretary to the Liberal Leader for
- The River Murray
- Sustainability and Climate Change

Friday February 22nd, 2008

Help is on its way for Pinnaroo

Following approaches by local MP Adrian Pederick, the state government has agreed to contribute \$70,000 to help the Southern Mallee District Council with its storm damage recovery program.

The town suffered substantial damage to parks and infrastructure during a sudden and violent storm last December. Telephone and power poles were bent, the town hospital was flooded and the fire station had external damage. Many trees were uprooted and branches broken posing problems with safety and traffic movement.

As well as considerable damage to private buildings such as structural damage and houses unroofed, many businesses found themselves having to take deal with substantial storm damage a week out from Christmas - their busiest time of year.

The townspeople rallied and, with local council taking a leading role, the long process of cleaning up began the following day.

The clean-up plans also brought to light an issue with the disposal of asbestos sheeting, which council is seeking to address.

An initial application to the state government for assistance was refused but a subsequent request, backed by a direct approach from Mr Pederick to the Treasurer Kevin Foley, has been successful and funds are expected to be available soon.

Mr Pederick acknowledged the government's support for the Pinnaroo community enabling the local council to complete the extensive and environmentally sensitive clean-up.

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