



**Hon. Shayne Mallard**  
Member of the Legislative Council

## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 25 January 2019

### **BEREJKLIAN LIBERAL GOVERNMENT DELIVERING SAFER ROADS FOR THE BLUE MOUNTAINS**

Shayne Mallard MP along with Liberal candidate for the Blue Mountains Mr Owen Laffin today announced that the Blue Mountains will receive funding for vital road safety upgrades as part of the latest round of the NSW Government's Saving Lives on Country Roads and Liveable and Safe Urban Communities initiatives.

As part of the \$182 million record investment, \$530,000 will be delivered through four projects in the Blue Mountains to help save lives.

These projects will include:

- \$225,000 for traffic calming and new roundabout on Megalong and Wilson Streets Katoomba
- \$175,000 for traffic calming and a new roundabout on Prince George Street and Wentworth Street Blackheath
- Intersection improvements at Fitzroy Street and Gladstone Street Leura.
- \$80,000 for curve realignment on Hawkesbury Road.

"As a local resident and Member of Parliament, road safety has been one of my top priorities, and I'm glad to be able to deliver \$530,000 across the Blue Mountains to make our roads safer," Shayne Mallard MP said.

Liberal candidate for the Blue Mountains Mr Owen Laffin welcomed the funding announcement.

"This funding helps our communities stay safer on the roads. But there is much more needed and that is why, if I'm elected as part of a Berejiklian Liberal state government I will work every hour of every day to get more investment and resources for our communities," Mr Laffin said.

#### **KEY POINTS:**

- \$530,000 will be spent on four road safety projects in the Blue Mountains during the next financial year
- \$182 million invested in road safety upgrades across the state during the next financial year that includes the delivery of 224 new projects
- \$141 million will be invested from the Saving Lives On Country Roads program
- \$41 million will be invested as part of the Liveable and Safe Urban Communities program

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The Liberals & Nationals in government are investing \$1.9 billion over five years to deliver the Road Safety Plan 2021. This includes \$640 million for Saving Lives on Country Roads and \$180 million for Liveable and Safe Urban Communities.

**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
**Hon. Shayne Mallard MP**

Shayne Mallard MP

Minister of Transport

Department of Transport





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Member of the Legislative Council

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday, 1 May 2020

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY FUNDING BOOSTS LOCAL COUNCILS AND COMMUNITIES**

Blue Mountains City Council will be able to direct an extra \$667,464 into frontline COVID-19 response efforts and core community services thanks to the NSW Liberal Government fully funding the local government increase in the emergency services levy (ESL) for 2020-21.

Member of the Legislative Council and local Blue Mountains resident Shayne Mallard MP said the NSW Government's recent \$395 million local government economic stimulus package includes \$32.76 million to fund this year's increase.

"Our emergency services have long been funded through a cost sharing arrangement between insurers, councils and the Government, Mr Mallard said.

"While we all acknowledge the importance of supporting our emergency services workers, local councils simply cannot afford this cost in the wake of COVID-19, bushfires and drought.

"This funding injection will allow Blue Mountains Council to redirect funds to critical core services and deliver financial support for the local community."

Mr Mallard said he would be monitoring how the Blue Mountains Council proposes to invest the significant funds to assist the community during the pandemic.

"The government is keen to know how Blue Mountains council will invest these funds to assist the local community. We don't want to see the cash disappear into the Council's administration budgets," Mr Mallard added.

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock said the COVID-19 crisis has hit councils hard financially and the NSW Government is determined to limit the impacts and allow councils to deliver for communities across the State.

"I am pleased to have secured this funding injection for our local councils which they can redirect to core community services and providing financial support for their local communities," Mrs Hancock said.

Revenue NSW will shortly issue councils with their ESL assessment notices for 2020-21 as required by legislation.

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The Office of Local Government will pay a grant to each council equivalent to the increase in their ESL contribution for 2020-21.

In 2019-20 the NSW Government provided \$13.6 million to fund the ESL increase for local councils to pay for new workers' compensation arrangements for firefighters with cancer.

The COVID-19 local government economic stimulus package also includes a \$112.5 million Council Job Retention Allowance to minimise job losses in the local government sector and a \$250 million boost to low-interest infrastructure loans for local councils to help drive jobs and investment.

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