

PAUL SCULLY'S WOLLONGONG

WRAP UP



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Record power prices on the way

Families and businesses in Wollongong are set to cop hefty increases in power prices.

 Bills are expected to increase by up to \$320 a year for households and up to \$920 a year for small businesses.

Power prices are increasing because the NSW Government has sold off power stations and allowed the new owners to shut them down.

The Liberals have privatised our power supply and allowed competition to fall, with electricity retailers in NSW charging up to three times as much as they charge in other states.

The NSW Government even went to court to stop the Australian Energy Regulator from cutting network costs, which could have seen power bills for the average household fall by up to \$300 a year and up to \$523 a year for small businesses.

The New South Wales' Council of Social Services

(NCOSS) has warned that many families are struggling to put food on the table because power bills are far too high.

NSW Labor has a plan to put downward pressure on electricity prices by:

- ▶ Re-establishing regulatory oversight of retail electricity prices;
- ▶ Using the proceeds from a nationalised Snowy Hydro to invest in renewable energy generation across NSW;
- ▶ Increasing clean solar energy generation on the rooftops of government-owned buildings; and

Illawarra Mercury, 13.7.2017

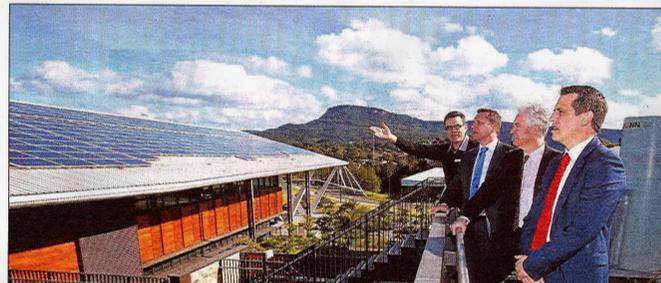
Labor's plan to cut power price hikes

BY AGRON LATIFI

THOUSANDS of Illawarra residents are feeling the heat, or should that be cold this winter, as rising electricity prices are forcing many to turn off the power.

And there is no respite in sight, with reports NSW energy companies are set to increase electricity prices by an average of \$320 for households and \$920 for small businesses.

Keira MP Ryan Park said people in his electorate were afraid they won't be able to



- ▶ Making the Independent Price and Regulatory Authority (IPART) solar tariff mandatory, so household generated rooftop solar is paid fairly for the power produced.

South Coast Line passenger overcrowding **UNACCEPTABLE**

 Some daily train services, especially in the afternoon, from Central to Wollongong are now so overcrowded that passengers are forced to stand in aisles and passageways.

Most South Coast Line passenger services have an eight-car set up. However, some services still only have four carriages.

It's simply not good enough.

I've taken up the concerns of commuters and demanded the NSW Government add more carriages to train services on the South Coast

Line, particularly for the afternoon commute from Sydney to Wollongong.

The Government says Illawarra commuters just have to wait until the new Intercity Fleet is commissioned.

But the new Intercity Fleet carriages, which are being built overseas instead of in NSW, will have even less seating than the current carriages.

I moved a Notice of Motion on 21 June 2017, which will be debated in the Parliament, raising the overcrowding on our train services and demanding the Government address the issue.



Getting loud about the train crowd

Illawarra Mercury, 24.6.2017

Time to get moving on Unanderra station

Illawarra Mercury, 10.7.2017

‘No giving up’ on Unanderra Station lifts upgrade

The single greatest disappointment of the Berejiklian Government’s budget was that the lifts at Unanderra station were not funded....AGAIN.



The community fight to have the Unanderra Station lifts installed continues.

While the NSW Government remains stubborn in trying to ignore the community’s demands for the lifts, I’ve uncovered documents the Government would like to keep secret on how it makes decisions on which stations get upgraded.

Using Freedom of Information (FoI) requests, previously secret documents reveal that the Government is making political decisions to determine which stations get upgrades and which stations are forced to wait.

The secret documents confirm that Unanderra Station is ranked higher than almost every other station that has been funded for an upgrade in the June Budget.

We know that the design and planning work for installing the lifts at Unanderra Station was completed in July 2011.

We know that the former Labor Government allocated funds to build the lifts in 2009.

We know that the Liberals took away that funding in 2010.

The Berejiklian Government should be embarrassed and ashamed by its neglect of Unanderra Station.

I will continue to use every single opportunity to lobby the Government to upgrade Unanderra Station and install the lifts that the elderly, parents with prams, and people with a disability need to access trains.

While this is something most of us take for granted, all the community surrounding Unanderra Station is asking for is basic fairness.

And if the Liberals remain stubborn in not installing the lifts, Labor’s policy is to do so by allocating \$25 million in its very first budget.

You can help make our voices heard by signing my petition at - <https://paulscullymp.com.au/campaigns/unanderra-station-lifts/>

It’s time to ban the bag



Recently the two major supermarket retailers, Coles and Woolworths, announced the phase-out of single-use plastic bags.

This is good news for the environment and, in particular, marine life.

While the voluntary move to end the use of single-use plastic bags by the supermarket retailers should be welcomed, the NSW Government has been sitting on its hands to ban single-use plastic bags.

NSW Labor has supported a legislative ban on single-use plastic bags.

NSW Labor introduced the Plastic Shopping Bags (Prohibition on Supply by Retailers) Bill 2016, which if passed

by the NSW Parliament, would prohibit retailers offering single-use plastic bags to customers.

NSW Labor has even offered that if the Government introduced a similar Bill into the Parliament, we would support it in place of our own proposed legislation.

So, while the supermarkets act, and NSW Labor has its own legislation ready to ban the use of single-use plastic bags, the Government remains silent.

PLASTIC BAGS THE FACTS

- ▶ Every second, 159 single-use plastic bags are used in Australia – more than 10 million new bags each day.
- ▶ In NSW, up to 61 million bags are littered each year.
- ▶ More than 70 per cent of the rubbish entering our oceans is identified as plastic.
- ▶ Plastic kills up to one million sea birds, countless fish and 100,000 sea mammals each year.



Wollongong Hospital parking concessions

Patients and carers can now save money on parking fees when visiting Wollongong Hospital.

Concession parking rates are now available for eligible patients and carers requiring regular or long-term treatment.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CONCESSIONAL CAR PARKING INCLUDES:

- ▶ Holders of an RMS issued Mobility Parking Scheme permit;
- ▶ Holders of a Pensioner Concession Card;
- ▶ Holders of a Gold Veterans Affairs Card;
- ▶ Holders of a Health Care Card;
- ▶ Ongoing cancer treatment patients;
- ▶ Patients and their carers who are required to attend the hospital/facility for a course of treatment over a period of time greater than one week;
- ▶ Patients and their carers attending more frequently than twice weekly, including carers of long term patients who visit frequently;
- ▶ Cardiac rehabilitation education and exercise class attendees;
- ▶ Daily dressing outpatients; and
- ▶ Health promotion education class attendees.

An application for temporary concessional and weekly parking tickets from the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District can be found online at www.islhd.health.nsw.gov.au/Wollongong_Hospital/docs/ISLHD-OPS-F444-WHApplicationforConcessional-Weeklytickets.pdf or calling my office on 4226 5700.

BUDGET DISAPPOINTMENT

for Wollongong

Massive budget blow-outs on Sydney infrastructure projects worth billions of dollars have forced many Wollongong projects onto the backburner.

\$ The people of the Illawarra thought they might get a fair share of the Budget pie this year given the Government’s rhetoric of wanting to “share the success of NSW”.

Instead, we got crumbs from a Budget billions of dollars in surplus.

NSW Labor has a \$225 million plan to share the success of NSW with the Illawarra region.

If NSW Labor was in Government today, this Budget would begin delivering on the measures in the Illawarra Jobs Action Plan.

Labor’s Illawarra Jobs Action Plan outlines our approach to securing the future of Wollongong and creating more local job opportunities to strengthen our local economy, through smart investments in our people and infrastructure.

LABOR’S ILLAWARRA JOBS ACTION PLAN REPRESENTS A \$225 MILLION INVESTMENT IN:

- ▶ Connections with South-West Sydney by linking the Illawarra with the new second Sydney Airport by upgrading Appin Road and completing the Maldon-Dombarton rail link;



- ▶ Upgrading the WIN Entertainment Centre in Wollongong;
- ▶ Moving more than 200 jobs to Wollongong by relocating Liquor and Gaming NSW;
- ▶ Upgrading the Mt Keira Summit Park;
- ▶ Establishing new opportunities for innovation by investing in an iMake Maker Space at the Innovation Campus of the University of Wollongong; and
- ▶ Building a new Masters and Springhill Road Interchange improving traffic flow into Wollongong CBD and access to the Port of Port Kembla and BlueScope Steel.

Labor’s Illawarra Jobs Action Plan can be found on my website at www.paulscullymp.com.au

Community Building Partnership

APPLICATIONS OPEN

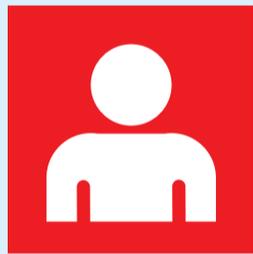
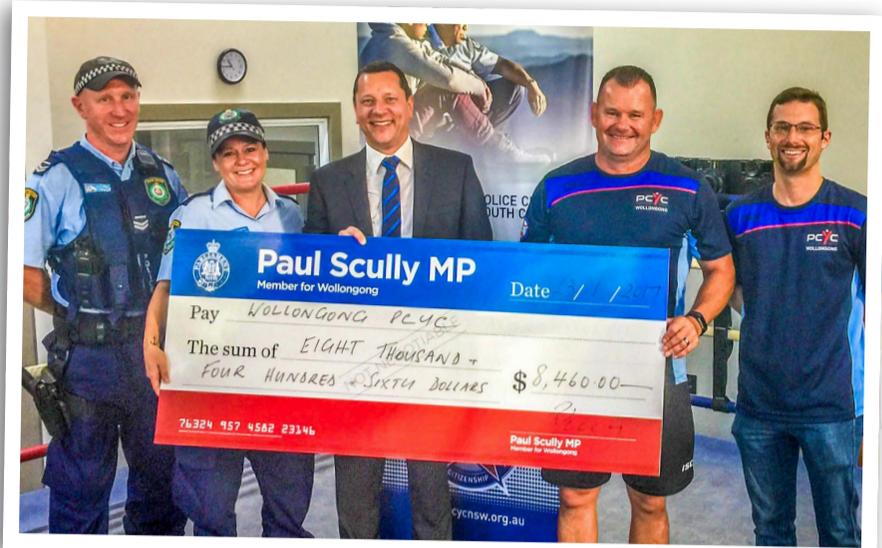
Local not-for-profit community, sporting, and school parents and citizen groups, are able to submit project applications for a share of \$300,000 of funding available to the Wollongong electorate.

PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE:

- ▶ Construction of community infrastructure;
- ▶ Refurbishment, renovation or repair of existing community infrastructure; and
- ▶ Purchase of capital equipment items with a minimum individual asset value of \$2,500.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON WEDNESDAY, 9 AUGUST 2017 AT 5PM.

Applications must be completed online and more information may be found at www.communitybuildingpartnerships.nsw.gov.au



Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2017

Representatives of all major and minor political parties within the New South Wales Parliament have published the *Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2017* for public consultation. I encourage everyone who has an interest in this issue to examine the Bill.

Labor and Liberal-Nationals Party MPs will have a conscience vote on the Bill when it is debated later this year.

The last time a proposal to amend the existing law was advanced was in May 2013. That Bill was debated and voted on in the New South Wales Legislative Council.

Following the debate, the Bill was defeated 23 votes to 13 votes.

Given the emotional nature of the subject matter, I accept that every individual who considers the Bill, will have passionate concerns and views to express. I hope that the debate on the Bill can be conducted in a respectful manner.

I will be giving careful consideration to the Bill's provisions. I am open to all individuals in my electorate sharing their concerns and views both in support of, and in opposition to, the proposed legislation.



HERE TO HELP

Paul Scully MP, Your State Member for Wollongong

If I can help with any State Government matters please call my office on **(02) 4226 5700** or send an email to wollongong@parliament.nsw.gov.au

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