



**Greg Aplin MP**  
Member for Albury

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **SCHOOL MAINTENANCE LIST SLASHED**

Public schools in the Albury electorate have had their planned maintenance lists cut by over \$2m as new figures to be released this week show the benefit of a blitz on roofing, flooring, painting and other maintenance projects.

The NSW Government has slashed the State's planned school maintenance list by more than \$200 million – or by about a quarter – in the past 18 months.

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin welcomed the improvement in local school facilities due to the record investment.

"I am pleased to see the NSW Government delivering these important works for public schools in our electorate," Mr Aplin said.

"Providing high-quality school facilities is vital to give our children the education they need and deserve. These works ensure we're providing those facilities."

Local schools that have benefited from this record investment include Corowa, James Fallon and Billabong High Schools which have had their planned maintenance liability as at June 2016 of over \$1.3m cut to just over \$415,000 by December 2017, representing a reduction of over \$895,000, Albury, Burrumbuttock and Jerilderie Public Schools have seen a reduction of over \$668,000 in maintenance backlog since June 2016.

The reduction in the liability follows the NSW Government's record \$747million school maintenance investment over the next four years.

Education Minister Rob Stokes welcomed the results of the latest Education Department audit and noted that more progress will be made in the coming months with another \$100 million allocated towards further maintenance in the 2017-18 financial year.

"The NSW Government's record school maintenance investment is having a real impact in addressing long-term maintenance challenges and we are committed to continuing this process," Mr Stokes said.

"We are investing record amounts on new and upgraded schools while also making sure students enjoy the best possible learning environments across our existing schools."

The NSW Department of Education will this week release its latest audit showing its planned maintenance liability has been reduced from a projected \$775 million at June 2016 to \$570 million by the end of 2017 – a reduction of more than \$200 million. The latest audit is the first time since 2012 a full review of the condition of all schools has been completed.

The \$747 million investment over four years in planned maintenance has already nearly halved the \$1 billion school maintenance liability left behind by Labor.

Planned maintenance refers to non-urgent works undertaken according to an ongoing schedule. It does not include any maintenance that poses a safety risk to students or staff. Similarly, any broken items in classrooms that impact on teaching and learning are also addressed immediately by the school or the department.

In addition to the record maintenance spend, the NSW Government is also investing a record \$4.2 billion over four years on building more than 120 new and upgraded schools – the biggest investment in public school infrastructure in NSW history.

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