



## Welcome to the special edition of the Mitchell e-newsletter

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Last week the Liberal Party room made a decision to change our leader - with the appointment of Malcolm Turnbull as the new leader of the Federal Parliamentary Liberal Party and [Prime Minister](#), and the reappointment of Julie Bishop as the Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party and Foreign Minister.

I would like to pay tribute to the former Prime Minister, Tony Abbott. As a party we owe him an enormous debt of gratitude for his service to the nation – particularly for the remarkable job he did in leading the Coalition to Government in 2013.

Yesterday, I was pleased to be [appointed](#) to the Executive Council as [Assistant Minister to the Treasurer](#) in the first [Turnbull Government](#). I was humbled to be given the opportunity by the Prime Minister to serve in this role.

This appointment is important for the electorate of Mitchell as it is the first time our community has a voice inside the crucial economic portfolio of Treasury. For many years now I have been a strong advocate for much needed economic reform, especially micro economic reform. As Assistant Minister I will work directly with the Treasurer, the Hon Scott Morrison MP and the Minister for Small Business and Assistant Treasurer, the Hon Kelly O'Dwyer MP to ensure we have a strong and vibrant economy.

Our community has so many innovative small and medium enterprises and their prosperity will be a core priority for the Turnbull Government.

Previous experience in Treasury I bring with me to the role, from the Howard Government, having worked as an adviser to the former Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Revenue, Senator the Hon Helen Coonan and the former Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Ross Cameron.

I am looking forward to working closely with my parliamentary colleagues, the Treasurer, the Hon Scott Morrison MP and Minister for Small Business and Assistant Treasurer, the Hon Kelly O'Dwyer MP.

As always, your feedback and comments are welcomed, please [email](#) or call 9899 7211.

Regards,  
Alex

**PS:** Local media articles on being sworn in as Assistant Minister to the Treasurer at Government House – [Hills Shire Times](#) and [Hills News](#)

## **Stronger Communities Programme – APPLY NOW - EOI for funding closes 9 October 2015**

The Mitchell Stronger Communities Programme – Round 1 is now **open**. Local community and sporting groups are invited to apply for funding for new projects.

The [Stronger Communities Programme](#) is to fund small capital projects which will deliver social benefits. The program aims to improve local community participation, cohesion and contribute to vibrant and viable communities.

Key aspects of the program:

- Please submit details of your [proposed project](#) to my office by **5pm, Friday 9 October 2015**.

- Local government and incorporated not-for-profit organisations are eligible to apply.
- Grants of between \$5,000 and up to a maximum of \$20,000 are available. There is a total funding pool of \$150,000 for 2015/16 year for the Mitchell electorate.
- **Applicants are required to confirm matched funding in cash or in-kind on at least a dollar-for-dollar basis.**
- Following consultation, the Mitchell Stronger Communities Committee will provide identified applicants with access to an online application form. Applicants will only be able to apply for funding once a link to the online form has been provided by my office.

Expressions of interest for the grant can be made by [downloading](#) the form and sending to my electorate office at Alex Hawke MP, PO Box 1173, Castle Hill NSW 1765 or via [email](#) or click [here](#) to lodge online.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the Stronger Communities Programme [guidelines](#) and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Please contact my office if you need any further information on the Stronger Communities Programme on 9899 7211 or by [email](#).

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Representing the communities of Baulkham Hills, Beaumont Hills, Bella Vista, Box Hill, Castle Hill, Kellyville, Maraylya, Nelson, Northmead, North Rocks, Rouse Hill, West Pennant Hills and Winston Hills

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