

For  
the  
Future

Boosting  
concessions  
& reducing  
costs



South  
Australian  
**Labor**

# Foreword

The past two years has been tough for many members of our community and older South Australians tell us that cost of living is one of the most critical issues they are now facing.

Many older people are experiencing financial stress, and in particular those who are age pensioners, as the percentage of their income they spend on essentials increases.

As we emerge from the pandemic, we are starting to see inflation bite once again after a sustained period of very low inflation and those increase in prices for essentials is hitting those hardest on low, fixed incomes.

In the December 2021 quarter alone, the Australian Bureau of Statistics reports that inflation in Adelaide grew by 1.5% compared to the previous quarter and year on year, inflation in Adelaide was up by 3.3%.

We also know that throughout the pandemic, older South Australians have been among the most cautious to move about and stay safe, putting them at risk of social isolation.

Compounding this, one of the biggest increases has been the cost of fuel – up by 8.3% in the December quarter, severely impacting the ability of senior South Australians visit family and friends, shop and attend medical appointments.

When public transport is easily accessible and affordable, it is a valued alternative to driving. It helps older people on low incomes remain active and maintain independent and purposeful lives.

A Malinauskas Labor Government recognises the contribution older people have made to our State over their lifetime and the impact rising costs are having on their often low and fixed incomes.

## Acknowledgment of country.

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians whose ancestral lands we live and work upon and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and respect their deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to Country. We also pay our respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their nations in South Australia, as well as those across Australia.

That is why a Government I lead will:

- ✔ Double the Cost-of-Living Concession payment
- ✔ Make Public Transport free for seniors in the morning peak-hour

There are more than 400,000 South Australians aged over 60.

They form a substantial body of our population.

They are right to expect that after a lifetime of paying taxes, fees, rates and charges they will get help later in life to enable them to live active and engaged lives



Peter Malinauskas MP  
SA Labor Leader



## DOUBLING THE COST-OF-LIVING CONCESSION

**COST: \$37.7 million**

A Malinauskas Labor Government will provide extra financial support for senior South Australians as they face the challenges of rising prices on their essential goods and services.

For the 2022/23 financial year, Labor will double the amount per eligible household of the Cost-of-Living Concession to:

- ✔ homeowner-occupiers: \$434.40
- ✔ homeowner-occupiers who are self-funded retirees with a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card: \$217.20
- ✔ tenants: \$217.20

This will be automatically passed on through electronic funds transfer into their bank accounts if they have previously registered for the concession payment.

For those who have not yet registered and who qualify, they can register for the payment through the online concessions form available on the South Australian Government website [sa.gov.au](http://sa.gov.au).

## MAKE MORNING PEAK HOUR FREE ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

**COST: \$5.25 million**

While for most senior South Australians, the need to joining the morning public transport commute is thankfully in the past. However, senior South Australians have told us that there are times when they need to use public transport before 9am, for example to make a medical appointment.

Labor doesn't believe that senior South Australians should face an additional cost for using public bus, trains and trams before 9am and will make it free if we are elected. They will still also travel free during off peak periods Monday to Friday, all-day Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

