



The Coalition's Policy

Key Commitments

Australia's surf life savers make an enormous contribution to communities across the country.

Around 170,000 Australians are members of Surf Life Saving Australia.

Surf Life Saving Australia patrol over 350 beaches around the country, provide over 12,500 rescues, over 42,000 first aid treatments, and 1.2 million preventative actions each year.

Members of Surf Life Saving Australia worked 1.3 million volunteer hours last year to patrol Australia's beaches and ensure safer swimming conditions for individuals and families.

Surf Life Saving Australia saves lives and makes our beaches safer.

Surf Life Saving Australia not only saves lives, but also makes an important economic contribution to our local communities.

A study by PwC found that surf life savers contributed \$3.6 billion per annum to the economy by preventing drowning and injuries.

Surf Life Saving Australia is the quintessential example of volunteers making a positive and substantial commitment to our nation.

The Coalition will support Surf Life Saving Australia and help boost its capacity to deliver preventative safety measures at local beaches.

We will:

- invest \$1.5 million in technology updates for Surf Life Saving Australia, which will ensure faster training programmes and reduced red tape
- provide \$1.5 million to expand volunteer training in local Surf Life Saving Australia clubs
- invest \$6 million in skills development for existing trainers and assessors within Surf Life Saving Australia, with the intent of improving the attainment of Certificate IV in Training and Assessment within Surf Life Saving Australia clubs
- deliver \$1 million for expanded recruitment and recognition of supervisors, trainers and assessors within Surf Life Saving Australia

These commitments are additional to the \$1 million we are providing to support upgrades to cleaner outboard engines used by Surf Life Saving Australia clubs.

The Coalition is committed to supporting volunteer organisations across Australia.

Our Plan to support Australia's surf life savers

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Surf Life Saving Australia not only saves lives, but also makes an important economic contribution to local communities. A study by PwC found that:

*"Surf Life Saving is iconic and fundamental to Australian culture and outdoor lifestyle. Every year, thousands of volunteer surf lifesavers patrol Australian beaches, guiding the public to 'swim between the red and yellow flags'... the total value of Surf Life Saving to Australia is \$3.6 billion... the benefits of Surf Life Saving far outweigh the costs, further demonstrating Surf Life Saving Australia's unique and significant value to the Australian community and economy."*¹

Surf Life Saving Australia is the quintessential example of volunteers making a positive and substantial commitment to Australia.

The Coalition will support Surf Life Saving Australia and help boost its capacity to deliver preventative safety measures at local beaches.

1. Investing \$1.5 million in technology updates for Surf Life Saving Australia

The Coalition will invest \$1.5 million in technology updates for Surf Life Saving Australia, which will ensure faster training programmes and reduced red tape.

Many Surf Life Saving Australia clubs rely on increasingly dated and cumbersome administrative systems. These systems are inefficient and add avoidable delays and paperwork to the daily operations of clubs.

¹ PwC (2011) *What is the Economic Contribution of Surf Life Saving in Australia*, pp.3, 5 and 6.

Our commitment will deliver funding for Surf Life Saving Australia to upgrade technology and equipment to deliver faster and less burdensome administration, which will expedite training and make clubs more accessible for new members.

2. Providing \$1.5 million to expand volunteer training in local Surf Life Saving Australia clubs

The Coalition will provide \$1.5 million to expand volunteer training in local Surf Life Saving Australia clubs.

Surf Life Saving Australia relies on volunteers to provide training and management skills for their clubs.

Our commitment will enhance the capacity of Surf Life Saving Australia to deliver cohesive and rigorous initial training, induction and ongoing training support for members and club managers.

3. Investing \$6 million in skills development for existing trainers and assessors

The Coalition will invest \$6 million in skills development for existing trainers and assessors within Surf Life Saving Australia, to improve the attainment of Certificate IV in Training and Assessment within Surf Life Saving Australia clubs.

Training and skill development are fundamental to ensuring Surf Life Saving Australia has the resources and capabilities to deliver preventative and rescue work at local beaches.

Our commitment will ensure greater training within Surf Life Saving Australia and ensure trainers and assessors have the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities to deliver substantive and effective training programmes.

4. Delivering \$1 million for expanded recruitment and recognition

The Coalition will deliver \$1 million for expanded recruitment and recognition of supervisors, trainers and assessors within Surf Life Saving Australia.

Recruitment and recognition are important to ensuring there are an adequate number of volunteers to patrol our local beaches.

Our commitment will support Surf Life Saving Australia's efforts to promote volunteer membership and recognise outstanding performance by volunteer members.

5. Providing cleaner outboard engines for Australian surf life savers

The Coalition will provide \$1 million to support upgrades to cleaner outboard engines used by Surf Life Saving Australia clubs.

Surf Life Saving Australia clubs will be supported to purchase cleaner engines and reduce their running costs through lower fuel use. Grants will be up to \$1,000 per outboard engine.

Our commitment will support practical local action to tackle climate change, while also providing efficiency benefits to these important local groups.

The Choice

The Coalition is committed to supporting volunteer organisations across Australia.

We value and support volunteer groups and will ensure they are able to continue to deliver important contributions to the community.

We delivered \$20 million in grants to volunteers last year.

Labor is out to undermine volunteers.

Bill Shorten has turned his back on Victoria's 60,000 volunteer country firefighters and the communities they serve.

The Coalition will use all powers available to help prevent the Country Fire Authority EBA from being approved and coming into effect.

Labor's policies threaten the successful transition to the new economy, through damaging tax changes that will cut existing property values, a 50 per cent increase in Capital Gains Tax that will hurt investment, and refusal to support re-establishing a building industry watchdog, the ABCC.

Bill Shorten says Labor is committed to Julia Gillard's \$80 billion unfunded fantasy promises, that will only lead to larger deficits and higher taxes for our children and grandchildren.

Bill Shorten has promised around \$60 billion worth of additional spending on top of what is currently in the Budget, leaving a massive black hole in Labor's books.

However, Labor has only identified \$7 billion through higher taxes and \$1 billion in spending cuts.

Bill Shorten and Labor can't pay for their spending promises, and what they can't pay for they will never deliver.

Labor has confirmed that it has a massive budget black hole and that deficits will be deeper if Labor is elected.

Three senior economists have said that Labor's plans would put Australia's AAA credit rating at risk.

Labor is hitting families and small businesses with \$100 billion in new taxes.

By contrast, the Coalition's Plan delivers the benefits of a growing economy and a better community to all Australians.

Our Plan will deliver a strong new economy with more than 200,000 new jobs for Australian workers expected to be created in 2016-17.

Costs

The Coalition will invest an additional \$10 million to support Australia's surf life savers.



THE NATIONALS
for Regional Australia

For further details of the Coalition's plan go to
www.liberal.org.au/our-plan
nationals.org.au/our-plan/