

Media Release – The Hon Shelley Payne MLC

Work commences on a \$10.5 million upgrade to regional water networks

Wednesday, 21 June 2023

- Water mains upgrades are underway in 18 regional towns in South-West and Great Southern
- Water Corporation project to reduce leaks and improve water supply reliability
- More than \$200 million committed to regional WA water projects in 2023-24

Upgrades to ageing water mains in 18 towns across Western Australia's South-West and Great Southern are underway as part of a \$10.5 million project by the State Government to improve water supply reliability.

The Water Corporation project will help ease pressure on existing water infrastructure and reduce the potential for leaks and bursts.

Refurbishments are underway in Katanning where some cast iron mains are more than 80 years old.

Upgrades were recently completed in Narrogin, Wagin, Capel, Cuballing, Harvey, and Waroona, with work in Kojonup, Albany, Balingup, Bridgetown, Brookton, Brunswick, Donnybrook, Kirup, Mount Barker, and Popanyinning scheduled for 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Work has been carefully planned to minimise community impact, with local subcontractors used for traffic management and road reinstatements, supporting local jobs.

The State Government is committed to improving regional water and wastewater infrastructure with \$158 million invested in 2022-23 and a further \$290 million allocated in 2023-24.

Comments attributed to Member for the Agricultural Region Hon Shelley Payne MLC

“Regional infrastructure is an important investment for the Cook Labor Government”, she said.

“Reliable water supplies for our regions is crucial and these upgrades will ensure the supply remains secure for many years to come”.

“I am pleased these regional communities will all benefit from important water upgrades”.

Comments attributed to Water Minister Simone McGurk:

“We're investing strongly in regional water networks to ensure WA communities continue to benefit from secure, reliable water supplies well into the future.

“Through this project, Water Corporation will replace ageing sections of mains that have supplied communities for many years but are coming to the end of their operational life.

“While water leaks cannot be eliminated completely, this proactive investment will help guard against the potential for extended outages and strengthen the wider supply network in these 18 communities.

"The State Government remains committed to regional water security, and through Water Corporation, has allocated \$290 million towards country water and wastewater projects in the coming financial year."

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