

## **Rann Labor silent on \$1.4m cost blowout to emergency services facility in Port Lincoln**

Liberal Member for Flinders Peter Treloar is still seeking answers from the Government on why there was a \$1.4 million cost blowout to Port Lincoln's new emergency services facility.

During Opposition questioning in November's examination of the Auditor-General's Report, the Minister for Emergency Services revealed that the Crown Solicitor's Government Investigations Unit would investigate a "*serious breach of authority*" by the Government's project management team.

"That was over a month ago – I'm now calling on the Acting Minister for Emergency Services to guarantee that the findings of that investigation will be made public in the interests of transparency and accountability.

"Another important question is: 'where is the investigation up to?'

"This facility is fantastic for the many emergency services volunteers who help protect our community - it's just unfortunate that the project has been dogged by this cost blowout.

"When this information emerged, the State Liberals asked 'how could a blowout of \$1.4m occur on a building project such as this?' – that question has yet to be answered by the Minister.

"The co-located CFS/MFS/SES facility was opened with much fanfare by Mr Wright, but since then there have been allegations of serious breaches of process, and contractors still awaiting payment for works completed.

"Unfortunately, it's what taxpayers have come to expect of this tired, out-of-touch Government, and it shows their failure to deliver projects on budget.

"The Minister is ultimately responsible for explaining how this serious cost blowout occurred.

"His attempt to refer to the "*commonwealth stimulus package and Building the Education Revolution*" as an excuse for the "*cost pressures*" associated with this project is simply passing the buck.

"South Australians are becoming increasingly frustrated by this Government's growing list of broken promises and financial incompetence."