

Thursday, 27 September 2007

\$150 MILLION SAVINGS FOR BUSINESS THE NEW RED TAPE TARGET

The South Australian Government has set a target to save business \$150 million per year through red tape reductions.

Premier Rann said State Cabinet has endorsed the \$150 million target as part of its commitment to reduce red tape by 25 per cent by July, 2008.

“Government agencies are already making good progress, with a number of measures identified to date. The exact dollar value of savings to business will be independently verified by Deloitte,” Premier Mike Rann said.

“The Red Tape Reduction program, an initiative of the Competitiveness Council, is one of the State Government’s key strategies to make South Australia the most competitive business environment in Australasia.

“Independent international surveys have judged Adelaide as the most cost-competitive city its population bracket in the world.

“In addition, KPMG has again found that Adelaide is the most competitive investment location in Australia, and third amongst nearly 100 cities surveyed throughout the world.

“South Australia is currently enjoying an all-time high in jobs, an equal all-time low in unemployment, and an all-time high in private sector investment.

“We are locking in these gains by providing nearly \$2 billion in tax relief, including the recent budget announcement of over \$300 million in payroll tax relief. And we are reforming our planning and development system to make investment easier.”

“The State Government will publish an annual Red Tape Report recording progress made by all agencies in reducing red tape on business.”

Premier Rann also announced the Chair of the Competitiveness Council, Minister Karlene Maywald, has stepped down to concentrate on the State’s water issues.

“I would like to thank Minister Maywald for her contribution to the Competitiveness Council, and I welcome her in her new role as Chair of the Water Security Advisory Group,” Mr Rann said.

“She takes over in that role from Deputy Premier Kevin Foley, who will now Chair the Competitiveness Council.”

Anyone wishing to provide feedback on red tape issues is encouraged to visit www.competitivesa.biz.