



2001-02 BUDGET - YOUTH & EMPLOYMENT
6 JUNE 2001

Member for Flinders Liz Penfold said programs funded for youth in the 2001 Budget would benefit regional communities where the drift of younger citizens to bigger centres can affect the vibrancy of a community.

A total of \$2.4 million over three years will fund a number of pilot programs under the *Integrated Youth Strategy*.

In addition, \$8 million will be provided over four years to combat high youth unemployment as part of the *Youth Employment Program*.

Mrs Penfold said that representatives from schools, Regional Development Boards, councils and Job Network employment services will come together to identify issues affecting young people's involvement in their local labour market.

"Only when these issues are known can effective solutions be implemented to help get young people into local work," she said.

Mrs Penfold said a new \$12 million program of employer incentives over four years will benefit people who find it hardest to find a job.

The new scheme will enable employers to receive financial assistance for creating sustainable jobs for people disadvantaged in the labour market.

Mrs Penfold said the incentives will be targeted at employment areas with the potential to provide long-lasting jobs, such as rapidly growing areas and those experiencing skills shortages.