



MEDIA RELEASE

HON ROBERT BROKENSHERE MLC

FAMILY FIRST
The Independent Party



SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT PROTECTION FOR WILLUNGA BASIN NEEDED

Thursday 29 January 2008

FAMILY FIRST MLC Robert Brokenshere has today announced that his Party will recognise the unique and diverse characteristics of his former electorate of Mawson and neighbouring Kaurna, together forming the Willunga Basin, to move a Bill that will guarantee protection of those features from future development.

“My strategy borrows from the example of the Swan Valley in Western Australia, and is quite simple:

- The Willunga Basin area will be divided into several restricted zones which will only allow continuation of current amenity such as vineyards, crops or small townships and no expansion of urban sprawl;
- A Consultative Committee will be formed representing local residents, councillors, environmentalists, grapegrowers and other interest groups to agree upon the restriction zones and format of the Willunga Basin Plan

“I appreciate, and acknowledge, the great work of Onkaparinga Council”, Mr Brokenshere said, “We have seen recently - with (a) the Adelaide City Council and (b) a push in our Legislative Council the Government intending to ram through its Development and Planning Review Bill - that this Government is willing to ride roughshod over the wishes of good Councils in the interests of development”

Mr Brokenshere said: “Clearly this Government wants to sprawl development in the south, and we have to create a Plan for the area - a Plan created by all interests groups united out of a desire to keep what we have here – and this Plan will need to be legislated, so a Minister can not pass Regulations to over-ride it”

Mr Brokenshere noted that the Bill received by MLCs like himself late last year contained a clause allowing the Minister to over-ride any Council Development Plan by regulation, including allowing certain forms of development.

“This Bill, without any safeguards, makes a mockery of having Development Plans and the consultative process, and shows this Government wants to take the focus away from its own struggles by attacking Councils”