

# Media Release

## Melbourne's West Missing Out in Wells' First Budget

LeadWest CEO, Anton Mayer has expressed concern about the Victorian Budget for 2011-12, which doesn't respond to two important facts about Melbourne's west — the outer-west is the fastest growing region in Australia and the inner- and middle-west has significant urban renewal and public health needs.

"Given the growth occurring in Melbourne's outer-west and the opportunities that go begging for major urban renewal in the inner west, we hoped to see some major investment in infrastructure and community services specifically listed for the western suburbs," said Anton Mayer.

"I'm very concerned that there is little or no mention of any major funding for facilities and services that the evidence shows are very much needed in this region," said Anton Mayer.

The Western region requires major investment in infrastructure across all areas – education, health, community services, law and order, public transport and of course roads.

Many examples could be given of evidence-based needs in Melbourne's west.

One example is Western Region Health Centre's need for \$9 million to fund development of a new Dental facility to serve the 10,000 people per annum attending the very aged and run down facilities in the City of Maribyrnong.

Another is the pressing need for funds to build new and repair old local roads throughout the fast growing areas in the City of Wyndham and Shire of Melton.

The Baillieu Government has decided to focus on funding its election promises. The long list of promises contained only one item for Melbourne's west—removal of the level crossings at Mains Rd East and Main Rd West, St Albans. In the Budget even that promised project has been scheduled behind the promised level crossing removals in Melbourne's south-east.

"With the rapidly growing population in the western region, the Victorian Government's response to our needs in the 2011-12 Budget is clearly underdone. It appears our communities in Melbourne's west have every reason to feel disappointed and I believe the residents across the region will share my concerns."

**Contact: Anton Mayer, Chief Executive Officer of LeadWest Ltd on +61 3 9317 5794 or [anton.mayer@leadwest.com.au](mailto:anton.mayer@leadwest.com.au)**



### About LeadWest

LeadWest Ltd was formed by the metropolitan western region councils. Its board members are representatives from the councils, businesses and educational institutions of Melbourne's West. LeadWest was formed to foster and undertake actions that support the sustainable growth and development of the region. It builds on the existing social, economic and environmental capacity of the region, to ensure a sustainable future for communities and businesses of the West.