

SUNDAY, 23 JANUARY 2011 12:02 WRITTEN BY [BARRY O'FARRELL](#)[FONT SIZE](#) | [PRINT](#) | [ADD NEW COMMENT](#)

Sewerage Connections

The NSW Liberals & Nationals will fast-track the connection of sewerage for houses across south west and north west Sydney - clearing most of the Keneally Labor Government's Priority Sewerage Program backlog, NSW Opposition Leader Barry O'Farrell and Shadow Minister for Natural Resource Management Katrina Hodgkinson announced.

Under the plan, the NSW Liberals & Nationals will fast-track the connection to the sewerage network of over 2,900 houses across eight Sydney communities, up to two years ahead of schedule.

The communities of Douglas Park, Wilton, Yanderra, Bargo, Buxton, Cowan, Glenorie, and Galston will directly benefit from this program.

"Sydney is a world-class city, but under the Keneally Labor Government some areas in Sydney's North West and South West are stuck with third-world services," Mr O'Farrell said.

"Some of these communities have been waiting for 40 or 50 years to have their sewer connected which simply isn't good enough. These are the type of basic services that all residents in NSW deserve, yet the Keneally Labor Government has failed to deliver."

Shadow Minister for Natural Resource Management Katrina Hodgkinson said Labor had neglected communities in Sydney's North West and South West by failing to provide basic services.

"Labor's had 16 years to act, but its sewer connection program is a case of too little, too late," Mrs Hodgkinson said.

"The Keneally Labor Government has dragged its feet on this program, with thousands of houses still not connected to sewers.

"Under our plan, people living in places like Wilton, Bargo and Galston will receive sewerage connections much sooner than previously scheduled.

"We will also ensure remaining areas such as Austral, West Hoxton, Menangle, Menangle Park, Nattai and Scotland Island are also connected to the sewer as a matter of priority.

"In government, the NSW Liberals & Nationals will return quality services to the communities that have been left to rot by the Keneally Labor Government," Katrina Hodgkinson said.

FACT SHEET: FAST-TRACKING DELIVERY OF SEWER

- 70% of septic systems fail to meet public health and environmental standards.
- The NSW Labor Government's 'Priority Sewerage Program' (PSP) has been a 'snails pace' connection of 32 communities (11,000 households) between 1997 and 2017.
- To date NSW Labor has connected just over half of these households.

- Meanwhile Sydney Water has focused on providing NSW Treasury with over \$1.57 billion in dividends and tax equivalents in the 4 years to 2012-13.
- The benefits of bringing forward connection to the sewer system include:
 - Eliminating dampness and seepage from on-site systems into backyards
 - Helping to protect our environmentally sensitive creeks/rivers
 - Reducing public health risks
 - Facilitate construction of new dwellings in identified growth areas
 - Improving property values
 - Eliminate odours from septic systems and pump-out trucks
 - Reduces households costs for septic pump-outs and maintenance
 - Reductions to the levels of mosquitoes.
- The NSW Liberals & Nationals will fast track the delivery of sewerage by 1-2 years for 2,930 households in the following eight communities:

Community/ Village	Approximate Households	Expected Labor Delivery Year	New Delivery Year
Bargo	800	2014-15	2013-14
Buxton	445	2014-15	2013-14
Yanderra	200	2016-17	2014-15
Cowan	230	2014-15	2013-14
Galston	335	2016-17	2014-15
Glenorie	300	2016-17	2014-15
Douglas Park	180	2014-15	2012-13
Wilton	440	2013-14	2012-13
Total	2,930		

- This plan will be achieved by doubling the subsidy paid to Sydney Water and revising the Sydney Water Operating Licence to mandate faster connection.
- Accelerating this program will sustain employment for over 500 people in laying the network plus create extra work for local plumbers to connect houses.

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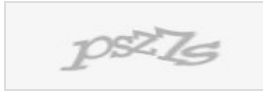
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