

**SUNSET COAST EXPLORER**

*Statement by Member for Hillarys*

**MS C.M. COLLINS (Hillarys)** [12.59 pm]: I take this opportunity to highlight an exciting tourism initiative that has commenced operation along northern suburbs beaches. I congratulate Destination Perth CEO Tracey Cinavas-Prosser; the City of Joondalup; the City of Stirling; Hillarys Boat Harbour Traders Association; and, of course, the owners of City Tours, Jon Tomkins and Martin Wright, who have overcome many hurdles to bring to fruition the Sunset Coast Explorer bus service.

Many will be familiar with the red double-decker bus that has been running through the streets of Perth for over 17 years but has been immobile due to the impact of COVID on tourism numbers. It is now getting a new life as the Sunset Coast Explorer, a free hop-on, hop-off coastal bus service that runs every Saturday and Sunday for 13 weeks during spring and summer. The service commenced on 23 October and has been extremely popular. It connects the beautiful beaches between Westfield Whitford City and Scarborough, stopping at Hillarys marina and North Beach in between. Hundreds of families in the Hillarys electorate have been delighted to take advantage of the hop-on, hop-off experience to enjoy the shops, restaurants, bars, beaches and, of course, AQWA.

There is currently no similar scheduled bus route along the coast. The future of this trial service is not guaranteed beyond this summer. I am committed to being a passionate advocate for its continuance to support tourism and local businesses in the Hillarys electorate.

*Sitting suspended from 1.01 to 2.00 pm*