



## Sid Sidebottom MP ... for a fair go in Braddon

**Media Release**

**April 15, 2009**

### **Certainty for families as Devonport ABC2 centre future assured**

Access to quality child care for families in Devonport will continue says the Federal Member for Braddon, Sid Sidebottom MP.

The Court Appointed Receivers for the 241 ABC2 Group child care centres have today announced that new operators have been selected for the majority of ABC2 Group child care centres.

A new operator for the Devonport centre has been identified, with a contract to be finalised by next month.

The new operator has been identified as part of a thorough and extensive process undertaken by Court Appointed Receiver.

The Court Appointed Receiver has selected operators who have the experience, financial capacity and commitment to deliver sustainable, high quality child care for children and their families.

In November 2008, ABC Learning went into receivership, leaving Devonport facing the threat of immediate closure.

“The Government’s priority throughout this difficult period has been continuity of care for children and, as far as possible, certainty for parents and staff.

“I am very pleased for the staff and children and their families that the uncertainty has been overcome, and it is great that a viable service will be available into the future.

“I was really pleased that the Rudd Government was prepared to manage the ABC debacle and that many of the centres including Devonport were able to be saved.

“Now much needed child care services will continue in the Devonport region without placing undue pressure on other centres.

“Ensuring ongoing sustainable quality child care for children and support for their families now will have long term benefits for our community and the workforce in the future.”

ABC Learning employees who resigned or are made redundant may be eligible for assistance under the General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS)

Mr Sidebottom acknowledged the centre Directors and staff for their commitment to the children and families during this period of difficult and uncertain time.

PPB has written to all affected families and employees of the ABC2 centre and advised them of the future of their centre.

PPB and the new operators as well as the various landlords, still have more to do to settle contracts, arrange licenses and transition the centres to new ownership but PPB is confident these will be in place by 15 May 2009.

A full list of ABC2 centres and their status is available on PPB's website at [www.ppb.com.au](http://www.ppb.com.au).

A link to this list will be provided on the Australian Government's website [www.mychild.gov.au](http://www.mychild.gov.au).

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