



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

Media Release - February 26, 2009

Switch to fortnightly Family Tax Benefit and receive Household Stimulus payments sooner

Federal Member for Braddon, Sid Sidebottom, said families will start receiving their bonus payments under the Rudd Government's Household Stimulus Package from 11 March 2009.

"Family Tax Benefit (FTB) customers do not need to do anything to receive the payments. Once a family has claimed FTB, Centrelink has all the information it needs to make the payments," Mr Sidebottom said.

There are two groups of FTB customers:

- those who claim FTB and receive fortnightly payments; and
- those who wait until the end of the financial year before they claim.

"If any families do not want to wait until tax time, they can claim fortnightly FTB payments at any time and receive their bonus payments as soon as their claim is processed," Mr Sidebottom said.

"Most FTB claims are processed within 21 days.

"Those who remain on annual payments will not miss out. They will receive their bonuses when they claim FTB at the end of the financial year.

"This is about giving families options. Families know what is best for them and are in the best position to make these decisions."

Any family that wants to change to fortnightly payments can contact the Family Assistance Office on **13 6150** or visit www.centrelink.gov.au or www.familyassist.gov.au

FOR MORE INFORMATION – Luke Sayer 0458 311 355