



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

Media Release

February 22, 2010

470 new apprentices in Tasmania since Christmas

470 teenage apprentices have taken up trades in Tasmania since Christmas through the Rudd Government's Apprentice Kickstart bonus scheme, Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom said.

Mr Sidebottom today reminded North West businesses that there was only one week left for them to take advantage of this scheme.

Under the scheme, introduced in December 2009, the Rudd Government tripled the first year bonus paid to employers who took on a teenage apprentice in a traditional trade from \$1500 to \$4850 over the summer.

"This scheme is all about boosting apprentice numbers in our region, and keeping employment levels ticking over in the face of what have been very challenging economic times," Mr Sidebottom said.

"I'm really pleased that so many employers in Tasmania have taken the Government up on this offer.

"There has certainly been no shortage of work for tradies on the North West and West Coasts in recent months with more than one hundred Rudd Government infrastructure projects currently being rolled out.

"Everywhere you look in our region there are carpenters building things, brickies putting up walls and electricians wiring places up, so it's great news that our next generation of tradies are now getting in on the act at such a busy time.

"I would urge any employers thinking about taking advantage of this scheme to get in and apply this week."

For more information on how to apply employers can contact the Australian Apprenticeships referral line on 13 38 73.

To be eligible, employers must take on a teenage apprentice in a trade on the National Skills Needs List.

For more information: Eliza Young

0439 342 159