



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

**Media Release**

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### **\$21,700 rural health boost for North-West Coast**

Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom has welcomed the announcement of \$21,700 in funding to two North-West rural health projects as part of the National Rural and Remote Health Infrastructure Program.

Smithton Medical Services will receive \$11,278 to enable the development of a fully equipped consulting room solely for the use of medical students.

Leven Medical Service will receive \$10,442 to upgrade medical teaching equipment.

“We all know how important health services are on the North-West Coast,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“This funding is so important for the training of new doctors in our local area, because if we have the facilities to train them here they are much more likely to stay here to work as fully-practising doctors in the future.

The National Rural and Remote Health Infrastructure Program (NRRHIP), a new initiative of the Rudd Government, will provide \$46 million over four years for rural and remote communities, and strategic planning for small rural private hospitals, through a competitive grants program.

The program aims to improve access to health services by funding projects in rural and remote communities where a lack of infrastructure is a barrier to the establishment of new health services, or the enhancement of existing health services.

These projects were two of 53 to be announced across Australia today, Mr Sidebottom said.

Local organisation interested in finding out more about the program, including who can apply, should visit

[www.health.gov.au/internet/main.publishine.nsf/Content/nrrhip-lp](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main.publishine.nsf/Content/nrrhip-lp).

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