



**THE HON JASON CLARE MP
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR EMPLOYMENT
SID SIDEBOTTOM MP
MEMBER FOR BRADDON**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Jason Clare meets Tasmanian Job Services Australia providers

Parliamentary Secretary for Employment Jason Clare today visited north-west Tasmanian employment service providers following the nation-wide launch of Job Services Australia on Wednesday, 1 July 2009.

Mr Clare said the roll out represents the most significant reform to employment services in years.

“That’s why I have come to Tasmania, to see how Job Services Australia providers are handling the transition to the new system and to make sure any teething problems are sorted out,” Mr Clare said.

The transition to Job Services Australia involves more than 700 000 job seekers at 2000 sites across Australia.

“The changes make employment services more flexible, more accessible, and more adaptive to the needs of disadvantaged job seekers,” Mr Clare said.

Member for Braddon, Sid Sidebottom, said employment in the region had been hit by the global financial crisis.

“Effective and active employment services are vital for regions like north-west Tasmania in these uncertain times.”

“We want to make sure the services are ready to respond to anyone in the region who needs help, and that’s why Jason is here today to see first hand how the change over is going,” Mr Sidebottom said.

Job Services Australia rolls seven programs into one, allowing job seekers to access a range of employment services from the same provider. The new arrangements also remove the capped services that in the past limited access to specialised services for some of the more disadvantaged job seekers.

“The Australian Government’s top priority is to keep people in jobs, and help those that are out of work to get the training and support they need to find a job. That’s why we have introduced Job Services Australia,” Mr Clare said.

More information about the transition to Job Services Australia can be found at www.deewr.gov.au/jobservicesaustralia or by calling 13 17 64.

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