



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

MEDIA RELEASE

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Encouraging new GPs to come to North-West

Doctors will receive significant new incentives to relocate to the North-West from today, says the Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom MP.

Mr Sidebottom said that Burnie, Devonport and some surrounding towns were now eligible under the expanded Rural Health Workforce Strategy.

“This expanded program has seen a number of areas such as Burnie now reclassified as rural, increasing the benefits available to GPs who want to relocate to the regions,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“GPs coming to Braddon will be offered between \$15,000 and \$30,000 to relocate from city areas, and up to \$18,000 to stay for a maximum of five years.

“Under the program they will receive even more to go to the West Coast and King Island, essentially the more remote you go, the greater the reward.”

Mr Sidebottom said this was all about delivering better health to all Australians, wherever they live.

“For years we have heard about the problems attracting doctors to our region, and many others. This is about providing more incentive to doctors to come, live and work.

“Together we are also supporting other initiatives like the Rural Clinical School in Burnie, which will give young doctors and nurses more exposure to living and working in a rural setting, and hopefully see them stay on once they qualify.

“The Government is also increasing training places for nurses and doctors to ensure we have more to staff our hospitals and GP clinics, wherever they may be.”

For more information or to arrange an interview call - Luke Sayer on 0458 311 355