



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

Media Release – June 27, 2010

ABBOTT MUST COME WITH ANSWERS

Liberal leader Tony Abbott must not arrive in Braddon tomorrow without answers for the school communities threatened with losing millions of dollars in funding under his leadership says Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom.

Mr Sidebottom said if Mr Abbott was visiting then he should be prepared to front the people of Circular Head and explain the \$4.5 million cloud that remained over funding for trades training centres.

“Will Mr Abbott and candidate Garry Carpenter go to the Circular Head Christian School and Smithton High School to explain why they won’t be guaranteed funding for vital trades training facilities?” Mr Sidebottom asked.

“The entire Circular Head community has worked together with the Australian Government to provide training which will result in real jobs and reduce vital skills shortages in the local community.

“But all this is under threat because Mr Abbott won’t give the guarantee that the funding for these will be safe under his leadership.”

Mr Abbott and Mr Carpenter must also explain to the people of the North-West and West just how much of the expected interest from their so-called \$1 billion education fund would come to the region.

“Last week Mr Abbott’s Coalition colleagues the Nationals revealed they would spend less than a tenth of the \$1 billion from the fund. How much of this could the region be guaranteed?

“Braddon has seen record spending on education in the last three years, but all of this is at risk under Tony Abbott and Garry Carpenter.”

Mr Sidebottom said he was sure many small business owners would want answers on why they will pay more tax under Mr Abbott and his leadership.

“Tony Abbott can’t expect to sail into the region without making clear what his policies will mean for the people who live and work here.”

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