



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

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Budget Highlights for Braddon

Pensioners will be the big winners in the 2009 Budget for the North-West and West says the Federal Member for Braddon, Sid Sidebottom MP.

Mr Sidebottom said the Budget announced last night would deliver a long-needed increase for pensioners, and start clawing back what had been lost of many years of neglect.

“This will be welcome news I’m sure for many pensioners in the region, and very well deserved,” Mr Sidebottom said.

He said the Budget would also see Tasmanians, many in the region, benefit significantly from the first \$4.7 billion under the \$43 billion National Broadband Network.

“I can also confirm that up to \$45 million in projects will be funded across the region as part of this budget,” he said.

“Many of these will deliver on election commitments and other major projects announced in recent times, such as the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program.”

Health has received a particular focus, with \$3.6 million committed to three major projects to benefit the North-West and West.

This includes \$1.2 million for an integrated online network for health professionals, another \$1.4 million in new equipment for cancer services and \$1 million to help provide accommodation for those who have to travel for treatment.

Small business in the region will also benefit from a further increase in the Small Business and General Business Tax Break, from the already announce 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

The 50 per cent rate will apply to new tangible assets over \$1000 acquired by small businesses with a turnover of less than \$2 million a year. The equipment must be acquired by December 31, 2009 and installed by December 31, 2010.

“These are just some of the initiatives of the Rudd Government which will help the people of Braddon across the coming year,” Mr Sidebottom said.

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