



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

### Media Release

21 May 2010

### **MORE THAN \$79,000 TO TRAIN MORE AGED CARE WORKERS**

Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom today announced more than \$79,000 to train aged care workers in the North-West.

The funding is part of the Rudd Government's \$19.2 million investment to upskill more than 4,000 aged care workers nationally.

"The Rudd Government is investing in training the aged care workforce because a more highly skilled workforce will help to deliver even better care to older Australians," Mr Sidebottom said.

"This investment is part of our ongoing commitment to improving the skills of our aged care workforce and part of our efforts to help aged care service providers recruit, train and retain valuable staff."

This investment builds on the \$135 million the Government has already provided to train more than 21,600 aged care workers and its 2010-11 Budget commitment of more than \$310 million over the next four years for more than 31,000 aged care training places and scholarships.

"We believe in better planning for our aged care workforce and the Government is investing to improve quality of care, build the aged care workforce of the future and provide financial incentives for aged care workers and nurses to undertake further study.

"I am delighted that the North-West will receive funding for more aged care training places, as many are aware we have an ageing community, particularly in this region where many people choose to live out their years in our great surrounds with family nearby.

"Our community like the rest of Australia is facing the challenges of an ageing population.

"With an ageing population and workforce shortages it is important that we continue to invest in our aged care workforce," Mr Sidebottom said.

**For more information or to arrange an interview call - Luke Sayer on 6431 1333 or 0458 311 355**