



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

### Media Release

16 May 2010

### **Abbott, Parry and Colbeck to slash and burn school building program**

Member for Braddon, Sid Sidebottom today said that the Leader of the Opposition, Tony Abbott, has confirmed he will cut funding to the school building program and should now reveal the names of the schools in Braddon that will miss out if he wins the next election.

Tony Abbott and Senators Stephen Parry and Richard Colbeck need to tell the teachers, parents and students of the schools of Braddon that they would cut funding from.

“Mr Abbott and the Liberal Party have repeatedly threatened to cut stimulus funding from our schools and on radio on Friday morning, he confirmed his intentions when he was pushed as to whether the funding would remain the same,” Mr Sidebottom said.

*PRESENTER: But the pot of money will be the same size?*

*ABBOTT: Well, look, um, ah, I'm not going to give you that absolute commitment.*

**ABC AM program, 14 May 2010**

The Government's BER program is delivering improvements in every local school, including new libraries, science and language labs, covered play areas and school halls – for some schools this is the first major infrastructure work they've seen in decades.

This includes 139 projects in 63 local schools worth \$99.6 million.

The program has also kept people in the North-West in jobs right across the nation so they can put food on the table and keep up their mortgage repayments.

“The simple truth is that local Senators Colbeck and Parry and the Opposition voted against every single dollar of this funding going to schools,” Mr Sidebottom said.

“Senators Parry and Colbeck need to come clean to local parents, students and teachers what schools are on their schools hit list that they intend to cut funding from if the Liberal Party wins the election,” he said.

“This is their policy – they say one thing at home and another in Canberra.”

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