



**Sharon Grierson MP**  
Federal Member for Newcastle

**Media Release**  
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**Newcastle's Recognition in the Federal Budget**

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP, today welcomed the investments that had been made in to the Newcastle region as part of the Rudd Labor Government's 2009 Federal Budget.

"This Budget was a positive outcome for the people of Newcastle," Ms Grierson said.

"Despite the current economic crisis and the limitations it placed on spending, there were many important funding projects for our region."

These included:

- \$35 million for the Hunter Medical Research Institute
- \$1.5 billion for the Hunter Expressway
- \$5.5 million for Tocal College's Rural VET Infrastructure project
- An extra \$3.6 million to various projects at the Williamstown RAAF site

"These projects will all, in their own way, help to grow the Newcastle area through the supply of services, diversification of the economy and support of important infrastructure," Ms Grierson said.

"On top of the more than \$1.1 billion that has already been spent in the Newcastle electorate since the Rudd Labor Government took power, these projects are further recognition of the input and contribution our city makes to the nation."

**Media contacts: 4926 1555**

**Canberra**  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600  
Ph: 02 6277 4221  
Fax: 02 6277 8461



**Newcastle**  
427 Hunter Street  
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300  
Ph: 02 4926 1555  
Fax: 02 4926 1895  
[www.sharongrierson.com](http://www.sharongrierson.com)