



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Media Release
21 February 2008

GRIERSON DELIVERING PET SCANNER
BALDWIN REWRITING HISTORY

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson today confirmed that the process for a Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scanner Medicare license is in train and negotiations between the Government and the Calvary Newcastle Mater Hospital are progressing.

In Parliament today, the Liberal Member for Paterson Bob Baldwin suggested that funding for the Mater PET Scanner may be cut back.

"This is an irresponsible scare campaign and an attempt to rewrite history," Ms Grierson said.

"The Rudd Labor Government will provide \$3.5 million for the scanner license. The previous Liberal Government committed \$2 million."

"Mr Baldwin's suggestion in Parliament that he somehow stepped in to secure the PET Scanner funding is also laughable," Ms Grierson said.

"The former Howard Government and Mr Baldwin arrogantly ignored both the community's wishes and my lobbying on this issue for four years."

"It wasn't until Labor's commitment to fund the Medicare license on 7 September last year that Mr Baldwin and his Government were shamed into a similar pledge on 21 September."

"The neglect of the health needs of our region is just one of the reasons Mr Baldwin's government was tossed out last year."

"He's more than welcome to live in the past - but he should not be using Parliament to rewrite history."

"Meanwhile, I will continue getting on with delivering on the Rudd Labor Government's commitments to our region, including the Medicare License for the Mater PET Scanner."

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