



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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Funds Available to Fight Binge Drinking

Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson has called for proposals from local community groups for funding to fight binge drinking under the Federal Government's *National Binge Drinking Strategy*.

Grants of up to \$150,000 for individual organisations or \$250,000 for groups in partnership are available to local organisations like sporting clubs, youth groups, health services and other non-government bodies.

The emphasis will be on innovative projects aimed at reducing binge drinking, and giving communities with problems related to binge drinking a way to fight it on their own terms.

"Binge-drinking is a major issue in Newcastle, as it is around the country," Ms Grierson said.

"This funding is a great chance for our local community to develop programs to find solutions that work for Newcastle."

"It will allow Newcastle to develop unique programs and educate our young people about the dangers of binge drinking."

"Local solutions will always work best, and I'm pleased that the program encourages partnerships with local government, health authorities, police and licensees."

"I hope that a wide a range of groups put forward their ideas and proposals, so that our community can take ownership of the problem and the solutions."

Application kits are available at www.alcohol.gov.au or www.health.gov.au/tenders, by emailing communitylevelinitiatives@health.gov.au, or by phoning 1800 209 312.

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