



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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ECONOMIC SECURITY STRATEGY TO BENEFIT NEWCASTLE

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson said today that the Government's \$10.4 billion Economic Security Strategy would maintain confidence, strengthen the national economy and help those most in need in our local community.

The Prime Minister's decisive action to strengthen the economy and support Australian households is good news for the people of Newcastle.

"Working families, pensioners and carers in Newcastle have been doing it tough," Ms Grierson said, "and the global economic uncertainty has added to their worries."

"The significant relief being provided to pensioners, self-funded retirees, low and middle income families and first home buyers is a big investment in our community which will strengthen the economy in these tough economic times."

In the Newcastle electorate there are:

- 7,526 single age pensioners who will receive \$1,400 each;
- 7,733 members of an age pension couple who will share \$2,100;
- 7,453 disability support pensioners who will receive \$1,400 each;
- 2,708 veteran service pensioners who will receive \$1,400 each; and
- 907 carer payment recipients who will receive \$1,400 each.

"This is practical assistance for these and other low-income members of our community, and is a down-payment ahead of the full Pension Review which is underway."

The Government has also confirmed the acceleration of its nation-building funds so that infrastructure projects can begin next year, as well as doubling training places under the Productivity Places Program."

"These investments in the skills and infrastructure of our nation will further enhance the productivity of the Australian economy."

"The submission to Infrastructure Australia released by the Hunter Infrastructure Alliance today positions our region well to take advantage of these investments in the nation's future."

"This package is a decisive response to the global financial crisis that will strengthen our economy while providing assistance to those who need it most."

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