



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

16 November 2008

Media Release

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS ANNOUNCED AHEAD OF SUMMIT

Ahead of the inaugural meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government, Sharon Grierson has welcomed the allocation of more than \$5.5 million in Commonwealth funds to local councils in the region.

The funding is the second quarterly instalment from the Rudd Labor Government's Financial Assistance Grants program, which provides assistance to local councils to help maintain services like roads, libraries, parks, pools, garbage collection and child-care.

Councils within the Newcastle Federal Electorate will receive the following allocations:

- \$2,949,618 – Newcastle City Council.
- \$1,479,325 – Maitland City Council.
- \$1,159,460 – Port Stephens Council.

Ms Grierson said this funding, announced on the eve of the first meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government, showed the Rudd Labor Government's commitment to supporting our local communities.

"I look forward to attending the summit over the next two days to discuss with council representatives how our two levels of government can work together on local solutions for our community."

"Along with other local MPs, I will be entering into the summit in a spirit of cooperation and am determined to help end the blame game between levels of government."

Ms Grierson will participate in summit sessions on making our major cities more liveable, productive and sustainable, and adapting to changing local environments.

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