



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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UNEMPLOYMENT: GOVERNMENT'S BLOWN IT

The latest unemployment figures show just how badly the Government has mismanaged the economy, Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson said today.

In Newcastle, the unemployment rate rose from 5.8% to 7.8% between January and February this year.

"This is just another sign that the Howard Government has blown it on the economy," Ms Grierson said.

"It has coasted along during the good times, without investing in the future. This is an idle Government more interested in short term fixes than in economic reform."

"Skills are the new wealth, and the key to opening the employment door. The Government's chronic under-investment in our University, TAFEs, and training programs is not helping people to obtain the skills they need."

"At a time of economic prosperity in our region, the Government is letting us down by not addressing the skill and infrastructure needs that would maintain long-term economic growth and employment opportunities."

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