



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle



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**GOVERNMENT SHOULD AGREE TO
BIGGER, FAIRER TAX CUT FOR NOVOCASTRIANS**

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson told Federal Parliament last night that the Government should agree to Labor's proposal to double the tax cut for average income earners.

Speaking on tax cuts legislation, Ms Grierson said the Government's Budget tax cuts are unfairly skewed towards the highest income earners.

"Labor's alternative doubles the tax cuts for low and middle income earners," Ms Grierson said.

"What this means is that the 85,500 people in Newcastle aged 15 years and over who have an annual income of less than \$65,000 will get a \$12 a week tax cut under Labor's alternative, compared to a miserly \$6 from the Government."

"The Government's proposals have once again duded about 91% of Novocastrian workers."

"Last year, people in Newcastle on the average annual income of \$44,011 got nothing in tax cuts from the Government. The year before, it was the infamous \$4 "sandwich and milkshake" tax cut."

"In fact, since 2000 the total tax cut to the average Novocastrian has been just \$10 a week. Over the same time, people on \$120,000 have received almost \$120 a week."

"Meanwhile, working people in Newcastle have already seen their tax cuts wiped out by \$339 per month in broken Government promises on child care, private health insurance, interest rates and the Medicare Safety Net."

"The Government has a very simple choice: it can either vote for Labor's amendments to help 7 million Australian workers and their families, or it can vote to give bigger tax cuts to the wealthiest in our society."

For more information contact Sharon Grierson on 4926 1555

Newcastle
427 Hunter Street
Newcastle NSW 2300
Ph: 02-4926 1555 Fax: 02-4926 1895
e-mail: Sharon.Grierson.MP@aph.gov.au



Canberra
Suite R2 88
Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600
Ph: 02-6277 4221 Fax: 02-6277 8461
Web Page: www.newcastle-alp.com