



Amanda Rishworth MP
Member for Kingston
MEDIA RELEASE

**BUILDING THE NATION, SUPPORTING JOBS & GROWING
OUR ECONOMY**

The Rudd Government's \$42 billion Nation Building and Jobs Plan, announced by the Prime Minister in Canberra today, delivers a welcome investment in local infrastructure and supports jobs in Kingston, Ms Rishworth MP said today.

The Plan will deliver \$28.8 billion in direct investment in schools, housing, roads and other essential local infrastructure, including a \$2.7 billion temporary tax rebate expansion for small business to encourage private sector investment.

It will also provide \$12.7 billion in direct payments to low and middle income earners.

In Kingston that means:

- Every one of our 59 primary schools will have capital funding provided for essential new buildings and upgrades; and
- Eligible families will be able to install insulation in the family home for free or apply for a rebate of up to \$1600 for solar hot water.

Many locals will also receive targeted bonuses, to provide an immediate stimulus to the economy and support Australian jobs in the near-term. **In Kingston that means:**

- 13,049 families will receive a Back to School Bonus of \$950 to help with the costs of kids returning to school
- Up to 5,575 students and people looking for work will receive a Training and Learning Bonus of \$950 to support their study costs
- People whose taxable income was less than \$100,000 in 2007-08 will receive up to \$950.

'These are tough economic times and this plan strikes the right balance between supporting growth and jobs now, and delivering the investments needed to strengthen the economy for the long term,' Ms Rishworth said.

The Nation Building and Jobs Plan continues the Rudd Government's decisive action in the face of a worsening global crisis that has already seen the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany and Japan fall into recession.

The crisis started in the United States on Wall Street and has spread across the world, slowing growth dramatically in China and has caused a rapid unwinding of the mining boom, with major consequences for Australian revenues, growth and jobs.

That's why this decisive action by the Rudd Government is so critical for supporting economic growth and Australian jobs.

The Nation Building and Jobs Plan builds on the measures already in place to support economic activity and jobs.

- The \$10.4 billion Economic Security Strategy and \$300 million program to build local community infrastructure in local council areas are supporting growth in the short term.
- The \$15.2 billion COAG funding package and the \$4.7 billion Nation Building Package will strengthen investment in road, rail, health and education infrastructure.

“It remains the case that Australia is better placed than most countries to respond to this crisis, so we need to work co-operatively to get through it because we are all in this together.