



MEDIA RELEASE

Amanda Rishworth MP
Federal Member for Kingston

20 September 2011

Boost for pensioners in the South

Federal Member for Kingston Amanda Rishworth MP is pleased that Southern Adelaide pensioners will, from today, receive an increase in their payments to help balance the household budget.

Ms Rishworth said local pensioners will be among 3.4 million across the country who will benefit from the increases.

Ms Rishworth said "There are over 25, 000 pensioners here in the South.

"As part of historic pension reforms, the Labor Government delivered an improved indexation system to ensure the pension keeps up with the cost of living.

"Over the last two years, two of the four pension increases have been driven by the pensioner living cost index, and this will happen again this September."

Ms Rishworth said pensions are now indexed twice a year to the higher increase of two measures: the Consumer Price Index or the Pensioner and Beneficiary Living Cost Index.

"We know that local pensioners on a fixed income have the least room to move in their budgets and that's why it's so important that when their cost of living goes up, their pension payment matches it," said Ms Rishworth.

From 20 September single people receiving the maximum rate of age, disability and carer pensions, as well as veterans' income support recipients, will receive an extra \$19.50 a fortnight. Pensioner couples combined on the maximum rate will receive an extra \$29.60 a fortnight.

Ms Rishworth said that over the last two years the pension reforms have delivered increases to the maximum pension of about \$148 per fortnight for singles and \$146 per fortnight for couples combined.