



BRADFIELD BRIEFING

A Community Newsletter from

PAUL FLETCHER MP

Federal Member for Bradfield

MAY 2018

Letter from Paul

The 2018-19 Budget is a plan for a stronger economy - and shows how the Turnbull Government's responsible economic management is delivering for Australians.

The Turnbull Government's seven-year Personal Income Tax Plan will offer tax relief for middle-income earners of up to \$530 per year and help address bracket creep. This will deliver much-needed relief for households struggling with the increased cost of living pressures.

To assist with those pressures, we're delivering the National Energy Guarantee to reduce energy costs for everyday Australians and we've promised to maintain our responsible emissions reductions target of 26-28 per-cent.

We're also delivering a record investment in aged care of \$1.6 billion to increase the number of home care places by 14,000, along with several changes to give age pensioners more options to supplement their pension

There's plenty more good news for Australians in the Budget.

This newsletter gives you more information about the Budget - and about my work as your representative in the Federal Parliament and in the local community.

As ever, if I can help you in any aspect of your dealings with Government, please do not hesitate to get in touch – all of my contact details are given below.

Best regards

Paul

A RESPECTED VOICE FOR BRADFIELD



BUDGET 2018-19

WHAT IS THE TURNBULL GOVERNMENT DOING FOR YOU?

1 PROVIDING TAX RELIEF



- Multi-year plan to make personal income tax lower, fairer and simpler.
- In 2018-19, around 4.4 million Australians will get tax relief of \$530 per year and over 10 million taxpayers will get some tax relief.

2 SUPPORTING BUSINESSES TO INVEST AND CREATE JOBS



- Instant asset write off for business with a turnover up to \$10 million extended to purchases up to \$20,000.
- Tightening thin capitalisation rules to stop multinationals from fiddling with debt to reduce their tax liabilities.
- New anti-phoenixing measures to make sure small businesses don't get ripped off by those trying to avoid paying bills

3 GUARANTEEING ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- Extra \$1.4 billion for listings on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
- \$125 million over 10 years from the Medical Research Future Fund for Lifeline Australia and Mental Health Research.
- \$500 million over 10 years for the Medical Research Fund.



5 ENSURING GOVERNMENT LIVES WITHIN ITS MEANS

- Budget deficit of \$14.5 billion in 2018/19 with a small surplus of \$2.2 billion forecast for 2019/20.
- Government spending to dip to 24.7 per cent of GDP by 2021/22.
- Taxes to GDP ratio to remain under the self-imposed limit of 23.9 per cent.



4 KEEPING AUSTRALIANS SAFE

- \$160 million to help agencies fight crime and prevent terrorism, including \$68.6 million to prevent child exploitation and abuse.
- \$294 million to increase border force capability at domestic and international airports.

BUDGET 2018-19

Key Elements

A New Plan For Tax - fairer, simpler and lower

The Turnbull Government understands that Australians are doing it tough, with lower wage growth and rising cost of living pressures. That is why we've introduced our seven-year Personal Income Tax Plan to make our tax system fairer, simpler and lower.

The Plan has three parts.

Step one will provide permanent tax relief to middle and lower income earners of up to \$530 on what they will pay in tax next year, and every year after that.

In step two we're increasing the top threshold for the 32.5 per cent tax bracket from \$87,000 to \$90,000, meaning an additional 210,000 Australians won't pay 37 cents in the dollar.

Step three makes our tax system simpler. In 2024-25 we will abolish the 37 per cent tax bracket entirely. Australians earning between \$41,000 and \$200,000 will all face the same marginal tax rate of 32.5 per cent.

The Turnbull Government's seven-year Personal Income Tax Plan is fully affordable and funded. It provides real tax relief for Australians without putting pressure on those already paying the most tax at the highest threshold, unlike Labor's plan, and it will be accomplished while we return the budget to surplus.

Since coming to government in September 2013, the Liberal National Coalition Government has:

- ✓ **Created 1,000,000 jobs**
- ✓ **Funded health, education and infrastructure at record levels** – including \$412 million for NorthConnex
- ✓ **Accelerated the NBN rollout** – Over 6.6 million can now connect
- ✓ **Removed all children from detention**
- ✓ **Fully funded the NDIS**
- ✓ **Made multinationals pay their fair share of tax**

A National Infrastructure Strategy

As part of our rolling ten year \$75 billion infrastructure plan we are investing in crucial transport connections across the country like Melbourne Airport Rail, Western Sydney Airport, the Gold Coast M1 upgrade, Perth Metronet and the Adelaide North South Corridor. In the 2018 Budget we are further investing in our crucial infrastructure through a \$1bn Urban Congestion Fund to support projects at a state level that fix pinch points and improve traffic flow, as well as creating a \$3.5 billion Roads of Strategic Importance Initiative to upgrade key freight routes.



In the 2018 Budget we announced a \$2.4 billion investment in Australia's public technology infrastructure, such as supercomputers, satellite imagery, GPS and research into Artificial Intelligence. This will help give Australian businesses the resources to research and develop new products and services. To make it easier for these businesses we are also refocusing the R&D tax incentive to support companies that spend a higher proportion than average on their research and development.



The Coalition Government – building a prosperous and secure Australia.

Local Issues

Aged Care Reform

The Turnbull Government has delivered long-awaited reform to the aged care sector alongside record funding growth. These landmark reforms will provide greater transparency and accountability to the aged care sector and complement the already significant funding increase the Turnbull Government has committed towards aged care. A record \$19.8 billion is to be invested into aged care this financial year – set to increase at 6 per cent per year over the next four years.

Bradfield has one of the highest shares of residents aged 75 and over of any electorate, so this is important news.

Figures from the Department of Health show that between the 2015-16 and 2016-17 financial years aged care funding for Bradfield rose by 3.76 per cent. This funding is delivered principally through the Residential Aged Care, Home Care and Commonwealth Home Support programs.

The Turnbull Government has committed \$5.5 billion for funding the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) with funding for the CHSP in Bradfield increasing by 52 per cent. The Home Care program will see funding increase by 27.6 per cent, and Residential Aged Care will increase by 2 per cent.



In the Community



Small Business Forum

I held a small business forum with the Minister for Small and Family Business, the Workplace and Deregulation, the Hon Craig Laundy MP. The forum was co-sponsored by the Lindfield, Chatswood, and Hornsby Chambers of Commerce. There was a lively discussion about the challenges of running a business in Bradfield - and what the Turnbull Government is doing to help.

Community Listening Posts

Over a three day period I held 15 community listening posts throughout Bradfield. More than 150 constituents turned out to speak with me. I really valued the opportunity to hear directly from constituents about what is on their mind. If you would like to come to one of my Community Listening Posts, you can call my office or email me on paul.fletcher.mp@aph.gov.au to find out when the next one is happening.



Bradfield Seminar Series

The new Bradfield Seminar Series has kicked off, with the first event held at the Joy Yeo Auditorium at Roseville College. The Bradfield Seminar Series comprises occasional public lectures on contemporary and important issues given by a speaker with distinctive expertise. Our first event featured former Australian Ambassador to Israel, Mr Dave Sharma, who spoke on the foreign policy challenges of the Middle East and Australia's role there. Over 120 local residents and senior students attended the seminar, listening with great interest and joining in an engaging and lively Q&A.

In the Spotlight



Paul Fletcher with Little Blue Dinosaur CEO Michelle McLaughlin at the launch of Hold My Hand in Wahroonga Park

Community Organisation: *Little Blue Dinosaur*

Little Blue Dinosaur is a local organisation advocating for keeping kids safe on our roads. You may have seen their recent campaign, Hold My Hand. The campaign aims to remind adults - when near a road with a child up to ten years old, hold the child's hand to keep him or her safe!

Congratulatory Messages

Do you have a friend or family member approaching a significant milestone in their life?


My office can organise official anniversary messages for constituents celebrating a special birthday or wedding anniversary. Depending on the milestone you can receive personal congratulations from the Prime Minister, Governor-General or The Queen.

If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.



Mr Alan and Mrs Rosemary Hislop receiving their 60th Wedding Anniversary message from the Queen

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