



Dear resident of the Berowra electorate

On Tuesday night, Treasurer Josh Frydenberg delivered the 2022-23 Federal Budget. This budget demonstrates our Government's commitment to delivering a strong and prosperous nation, now and into the future.

I thought I would share some thoughts about what it means for the Berowra electorate.

### **BETTER TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Of particular interest to our community are the announcements on telecommunications. As you know fed up with poor telco service, I joined with colleagues to call for better infrastructure, stronger accountability for telco executives and improved customer service.

In response as part of the budget, our Government has announced a \$1.3 billion package of measures to improve mobile phone and internet coverage in communities like ours. This will mean more telecommunications infrastructure for our community with more mobile phone towers and NBN upgrades as well as measures to hold telcos to account who mislead the public about phone and internet coverage.

This is a great victory for our community but the fight is not over yet. As these measures are rolled out I will continue to fight to ensure people in our community members get the telco coverage and service they deserve.



### **SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES**

Our Government is making essential investments to keep our economy growing and relieve families from cost of living pressures:

- Around 58,900 taxpayers in Berowra will benefit from tax relief of up to \$1,500 this year, made up of the \$1,080 low and middle income tax offset and a \$420 cost of living tax offset.

That's on top of the 73,300 locals who have already benefited from the Government's Tax Plan.

- Australians will save 22 cents a litre every time they fill up their car for the next six months.

In Berowra 11,181 pensioners, 7,970 eligible self-funded retirees, 500 carers and 1,863 NDIS support recipients will receive a one-off cost of living payment of \$250. Together, with the recent pension increases, this will see 11,181 pensioners across the electorate receive more than \$500 in additional support over the next 6 months, when they need it most.

### **SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS**

This Budget is also about helping local small businesses, young Australians and Job seekers prosper in our growing economy.

To assist small businesses we are providing for a new Technology Investment Boost to encourage small businesses to go digital, which will benefit 20,400 businesses in Berowra.

These businesses will have access to a new bonus 20% deduction on digital and technology expenses such as buying computers, online sales platforms, accounting software, cyber security and cloud computing.

Small businesses will also have access to a new 20% bonus deduction for training and upskilling employees. Around 4,500 businesses in Berowra will be able to access this bonus deduction. The Boost will support businesses to invest in the training and upskilling of their employees while reducing their tax bill.

Our Government is also continuing tax incentives that will allow around 20,400 businesses in our community to write-off the full value of any eligible asset they purchase.

Additionally, around 9,100 businesses in Berowra will be able to use the extended loss carry back measure to support cash flow and confidence. This has already helped businesses invest more in the local economy and to create local jobs and will continue to do so.

Australia currently has a record high of 220,000 in trade apprenticeships and in our community, we already have 1,310 apprentices. New measures in the Budget will also lead to more opportunities for apprentices and trainees with expanded places under our Government's Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements and Completing Apprenticeship Commencements wage subsidy programs.



## CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Our Government remains committed to reducing emissions to Net Zero by 2050 and we're doing this through technology, not taxes.

The budget included important new measures that protect our natural environment including:

- \$1 billion in world-leading marine science to protect the Great Barrier Reef.
- \$800 million to enhance our scientific capability in the Antarctic, funding vital research and environmental management.
- \$60 million for advanced plastic recycling technology that will tackle problematic plastics like bread bags and chip packets.
- \$636 million to expand the Indigenous Rangers Program with more than 1,000 new rangers to undertake land and sea management.

## INVESTING IN PARENTS AND EDUCATION

Children are our next generation and the job of a parent can be challenging, speaking from experience - I know.

That's why this Budget is also about delivering for our children and helping working parents to maintain their careers and children simultaneously, without having to preference one well above the other.

Under this Budget, we're increasing funding for preschools to make childcare more accessible and affordable. Ongoing childcare funding in this Budget will directly benefit over 6,860 families in our community.

Additionally, the Morrison Government is increasing flexibility and choice for eligible Australian families by enhancing paid parental leave. As a dad of a newborn, I know how important it is for me to be around in these first important weeks of my daughter's life. I want to make sure both mums and dads can take the time off they need support their newborns. I'm pleased that under this budget, both parents will be able to access and share a single fully flexible 20-week scheme.

The Morrison Government is also introducing an additional household income test of

\$350,000 when both parents are working, benefiting women who are the main breadwinner.

### **MAKING HOUSING MORE AFFORDABLE**

I know how important housing affordability is in our community, not just for first home buyers, but for their mums dads and grandparents who want to get the next generation off to a good start. That's why we want to expand opportunities for young people to get into their first home.

Our Government is doing just that, by extending the Home Guarantee Scheme with 50,000 places available per year.

The scheme assists first home buyers into their first home by allowing them to buy a property with as little as a five per cent deposit without having to pay mortgage insurance.

### **INVESTING IN HEALTH AND OUR FUTURE**

The pandemic has been an important reminder for us all of the importance of our health.

Our Government has strengthened Medicare by making telehealth consultations permanent. In our community, there have been 665,030 telehealth consultations - an amazing result - funded through Medicare since the start of the pandemic.

We have funded 1,711,675 free or subsidised medicines in Berowra through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

In this Budget, the Morrison Government continues to lower the cost of life saving medicines with new PBS listings for breast cancer and cystic fibrosis. We are also reducing the PBS Safety Net thresholds. Around 2.4 million Australians will benefit from earlier access to further subsidised or free PBS medicines.

Since coming to Government, we have made nearly 2,900 new or amended medicine listings through the PBS.

Like one in nine women in Australia, my wife Joanna has endometriosis. She has been through multiple surgeries and lots of pain over the years and we know others who have had it a lot worse than we have. That's why I am especially pleased to see the \$139 million in support for endometriosis relief. I am pleased that this funding will support more than 800,000 women with endometriosis, as well as Australians looking to start a family or have another child.

A record \$58 million will be invested to establish specialised endometriosis and pelvic pain clinics in every state and territory to improve diagnosis, care and treatment.

To support the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), this Budget guarantees record funding, which is supporting over 500,000 NDIS participants across Australia and 2,119 across our community.

Finally, this Budget will continue a further record investment in aged care to help the 24,659 senior Australians in our community. This investment will deliver more home care places, more funding for aged care centres and increases in the amount of time that nurses and carers spend with residents.

### **INVESTING IN NATIONAL SECURITY**

Although it may seem far away, the war in Ukraine and the growing tensions in the Indo-Pacific are a reminder of the importance of defence and national security. The truth is that global instability has an impact on energy prices and supply chains and this affects our daily lives.

The reality is that the world is less stable. This is why we are investing more in the defence of our nation.

We have deepened strategic partnerships through agreements such as AUKUS and the Quad.

We have put in place a 10-year defence capability plan worth more than \$270 billion supporting more than 100,000 jobs.

- Hobart Class Air Warfare Destroyers, built in South Australia are now in the water.
- Combat vehicles, maintained in Queensland are now in service.
- And F-35A Joint Strike Fighters with parts made in Western Sydney are now in the air.

In this Budget, we will spend \$38 billion on the largest increase to the defence workforce in peacetime to ensure we are ready to face emerging threats.

We are also investing almost \$10 billion on offensive and defensive cyber capabilities.

Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road  
Pennant Hills NSW 2110

Phone: (02) 9980 1822

Email: [julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au)

Authorised by Julian Leeser MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills  
NSW 2120.