



NEWS RELEASE

Sharon Bird MP
Federal Member for Cunningham

Minimum wage increase

Federal Member for Cunningham, Sharon Bird, today welcomed the decision of the Australian Fair Pay Commission (AFPC) to award an increase of \$21.66 a week in the federal minimum wage.

“1.3 million low-income earners will benefit from this decision today by the AFPC.

“The AFPC decision to award an increase of \$21.66 a week in the federal minimum wage is a fair compromise on the requests from trade unions and employers.

“This decision strikes the right balance to ensure that low income earners are not disadvantaged by the increases in prices on groceries and petrol”, Ms Bird said.

The minimum award wage will, flowing from this decision, increase to \$543 per week, and increased wage payments would start on or after 1 October 2008.

Low-income earners would also benefit from the Commonwealth Government’s income taxation changes, introduction of the 50% Child Care Tax Rebate (CCTR) and 50% Education Tax Rebate (ETB) from 1 July 2008.

8 July 2008
