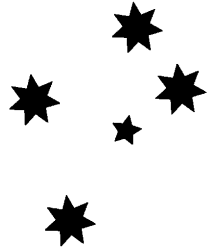


## **MEDIA RELEASE**



AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY

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### Kelvin Thomson MP

Federal Labor Member for Wills

## **BUDGET 08**

The Federal Labor Government's first Budget has delivered on election promises made prior to the last election, Wills MP, Kelvin Thomson said.

Mr Thomson said Budget 2008 had put working families in Wills at the centre of the Federal Labor Government's commitments to tackle inflation and lay the building blocks for a stronger, more modern Australia.

"At the centre of the Budget is a \$55 billion *Working Families Support Package* that delivers on the tax cuts we committed to in the election that helps Australian families with childcare and education costs," he said.

"The Budget also contains a \$40 billion investment in Australia's future to fund new and improved roads, hospitals and schools.

"We're delivering the election commitments made before last year's election because we take seriously the promises we make to Australian families."

Mr Thomson said the Budget was an important step towards building a new more modern Australia with first class economic and social infrastructure.

"By making Australia's finances more sustainable we can now start investing in the schools, hospitals, roads, rail and communications projects families in Wills rely on every day but were neglected for over a decade.

"This has been made possible because we've had the courage to take the tough decisions that may cause some pain, but in the long term will make Australia stronger."

Key initiatives of the Federal Labor Government's first Budget include:

- **Strong economic management – surplus of \$21.7 billion;**
- **Abolishing \$7 billion of the Liberals' reckless spending;**
- **A Working Families Support Package worth \$55 billion;**
- **Unprecedented investment in Australia's future – around \$40 billion put aside for infrastructure, education and health improvements;**
- **\$15.2 billion for sustainable water initiatives and to help tackle climate change;**

- Over \$22 billion for road and rail projects; and
- An investment of \$2.4 billion for Australian seniors and carers.

***Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008***

***For further information please contact Anthony Cianflone 9350 5777***