I am proud to say that the Abbott Coalition Government is honouring its commitment to build the roads of the 21st century in Western Sydney, working with the NSW Government to deliver a $3.6 billion investment.

We have consulted closely with stakeholders from the local government, business, tourism, education and health sectors in formulating this package which will cut travel times and create thousands of jobs.

Construction has begun on these projects, with Prime Minister Tony Abbott, Premier Mike Baird, and Treasurer Joe Hockey (pictured), turning the first sod on the $1.6 billion upgrade of the Northern Road, between Narellan Road and the M4 Motorway - a key link that will support the new Western Sydney employment zone and airport.

Other key projects include a new motorway from the M7 to the Northern and Bringelly Roads and a $200 million package for local road upgrades.

See page 4 for more information on our plans to improve infrastructure and create jobs in Western Sydney.
Budget 2015

Helping Small Business and Jobs

The 2015 Budget backs small businesses, to help grow the economy and create jobs. Small businesses with less than $2 million turnover will get more support:

- **Immediate tax deductions** for every asset purchased with a value up to $20,000 (each).
- **Tax relief** – a 1.5% tax cut for incorporated small businesses. A 5% tax discount (up to $1,000 a year) for unincorporated small businesses.
- Start-ups can immediately deduct professional expenses for starting their business.

More Affordable Child Care

The Australian Government’s new child care measures will make child care more affordable. From July 2017, the new Child Care Subsidy will help more families get into work and stay in work.

- Working families with incomes between $65,000 and $170,000 will be around $30 per week better off.
- Working families earning less than $65,000 will get an 85% subsidy of child care fees (up to an hourly cap). A Child Care Safety Net will help those families earning less than $65,000 that don’t meet the activity test.
- A Home Care (Nannies) Pilot will help people like shift workers access child care.
- Our “no jab, no pay” rule will remove access to child care subsidies for parents who don’t immunise their children (with exemptions only on medical grounds).
Keeping Australia Safe

“When it comes to national security, there can be no shortcuts.”

Tony Abbott MP
Prime Minister of Australia

More Security for Seniors

- The Age Pension will continue to increase twice a year – at the highest available indexation rate.
- From 2017 – 170,000 pensioners with modest assets will have pensions increased by an average of $30 per fortnight.
- For 90% of pensioners, there will either be no change in pension arrangements, or higher pensions.
- We will fight Labor’s new taxes on superannuation.

The 2015 Budget includes record investment in Defence, national security and law enforcement.

More resources plus new powers to act, will boost our national security agencies’ ability to deal with potential terrorists. We are also cracking down on hate preachers.

We’ve stopped the boats and our new Australian Border Force will keep us safer by responding to terrorism threats.

Debt and Deficit

Repairing Labor’s Budget Mess

- After inheriting a surplus, Labor racked up 6 record deficits.
- The Coalition is reducing Labor’s deficit – from $48 billion last year to $7 billion in 4 years.
- We’re doing the responsible thing and reducing Australia’s Budget deficit over time. Reducing the deficit will make Australia stronger and provide more certainty and opportunities.
With NSW voters placing their faith in Mike Baird and his Liberal-National Coalition Government’s ambitious economic reform agenda, including the joint Commonwealth-State roads investment, they are also supporting our plans for the future. Over the last four years, the Liberal-National Coalition Government has turned NSW into Australia’s number one economy, with Western Sydney playing a key role in this transformation.

I look forward to continuing to work with the NSW Government to progress the rollout of the Commonwealth-State roads investment, along with other key projects like the WestConnex Motorway and North West Rail Link.

Our record infrastructure investment is part of a coordinated plan to deliver the knowledge jobs of the future to Western Sydney.

The Western Sydney airport will be part of a business park that is expected to create around 57,000 jobs over the next 30 years and a total of 212,000 jobs when the precinct is fully developed from the mid-2040s onward, in addition to the increasing employment at the airport.

I have strongly advocated for large corporates to base their headquarters in our city hubs like Penrith, Blacktown and Campbelltown to take advantage of their strategic positioning near the airport and business park.

I outlined these plans in a keynote address to the Developing Greater Western Sydney forum at the Novotel Hotel Parramatta: http://www.marisepayne.com/content/business-jobs-and-rail-keys-developing-greater-western-sydney. I will also continue lobbying my federal colleagues to push the NSW Government to require companies contracted to build the airport and associated infrastructure to commit to employment for Western Sydney workers.
I was delighted to open new myGov shopfronts in Sydney and Brisbane in recent months, as we ramp up our campaign to make it easier for customers to access government services.

The new shopfronts in Martin Place, Sydney and Suncorp Plaza, Brisbane, bring together the Department of Human Services and the Australian Taxation Office, helping people self-manage their government business by utilising digital services and support staff.

The centres offer a mobile apps bar, self-service computers and a dedicated learning hub to help people create a myGov account.

myGov is an online service that provides over six million active users with secure digital access to a range of government agencies including Medicare, Centrelink, ATO, Child Support and Veterans’ Affairs, through a single username and password.

We will continue our efforts to connect Australians to government services online, whilst still offering face-to-face assistance for those who need it.

The centres offer a mobile apps bar, self-service computers and a dedicated learning hub to help people create a myGov account.

myGov is an online service that provides over six million active users with secure digital access to a range of government agencies including Medicare, Centrelink, ATO, Child Support and Veterans’ Affairs, through a single username and password.

We will continue our efforts to connect Australians to government services online, whilst still offering face-to-face assistance for those who need it.

I was proud to announce that the Coalition Government will replace the Department of Human Services’ ageing welfare payment IT system with a modern platform.

In April, I joined Social Services Minister Scott Morrison in announcing an important long-term investment of $1 billion to maximise the benefits of e-government, reduce administration costs for taxpayers and crack down on welfare cheats.

Under this year’s Budget, the Government will invest an initial $60 million to kick-start the Welfare Payment Infrastructure Transformation (WPIT) to replace the current 1980s technology which was built for an era of paper records.

Investing in a new system will boost efficiency and help advance welfare reforms, by streamlining the delivery of around $100 billion in payments to 7.3 million people each year.

The new system will provide a flexible, modern social security system that will improve real-time data-sharing between agencies, meaning customers – with their consent – won’t have to provide their information twice.

In an Australian first, 11 people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) have begun traineeships designed to harness their unique abilities at the Department of Human Services ICT Hub in Adelaide.

My department, in conjunction with Specialist People Foundation and HP Australia, created this initiative to provide skilled jobs for people with ASD through the ‘Dandelion’ programme.

We are excited to bring this opportunity to Adelaide and our ICT Hub is the perfect workplace to engage the trainees whose precise attention to detail and ability to systematically process information are well suited to working in an ICT testing environment.

The name of the program is derived from the Dandelion logo for the Specialist People Foundation, whose aim is to shift the focus from disability to ability and harnessing the skills of people with ASD.
My revamped website www.marisepayne.com allows for increased interaction with community members in Western Sydney and throughout New South Wales, Party members and a range of other stakeholders.

The new site allows users to access my Facebook page, follow me on Twitter, contact me for assistance with federal issues and subscribe to my newsletter.

I encourage you to visit my site, check out my latest news and stay in touch!